



INVINCIBLE SAINT SALARYMAN

1ST COMPILATION
BOOK 01 TO 05

Broccoli Lion

EPUB CREATION BY LISA HAYES

Invincible Saint Salaryman, the Path I Walk to Survive in This Other World

(聖者無双 ～サラリーマン、異世界で生き残るために歩む道～)

by

TodayAgain

(오늘도요)

Synopsis

One day, Earth's God of Destiny, and Galdardia's Chief God had a bet.

The God of Destiny lost, and chose ten mediocre souls to hand over.

To those ten souls, the Chief God of Galdardia handed them new vessels.

And amongst those mediocre souls was one salaryman who fought against his destiny of death.

How will this man grow from now on?

Not the God of Destiny, nor the Chief God of Galdardia, nor even the author themselves know.

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English Translation by Tseirp @ [Tseirp Translations](#)

ePub conversion by Lisa Hayes @ [Hasseno Blog](#)

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Chapter 000: Prologue

『』Sound effect

「」Skills/Titles

《》Announcements

" " Dialogues

[] Monologue

{ } God's dialogue

[Status open]. When I said that in my mind, a translucent bluish-white hologram window appeared in front of my eyes.

Game-like status are shown in the window? The status screen was projected just as I wanted to comment on that.

Name: Undefined

Age: 15

Job: Undefined

LV: 1 (Body level)

HP: 200 (Vitality)

MP: 50 (Magic amount)

STR: 20 (Physical Strength)

INT: 20 (Intelligence, Comprehension)

VIT: 20 (Endurance)

MGI: 20 (Magical power)

DEX: 20 (Dexterity)

RMG: 20 (Magical Resistance)

AGI: 20 (Agility)

SP: 100 (Skill, Status point)

【Skills】

None

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10)

[Almost as if it's a game. Haha ...]

The man laughed helplessly.

Why am I in a situation that seems like it was written in a novel's prologue? The man stared at his status in a daze as he recalled.

This all began when the man lost his life.

It doesn't mean that his death had any special meaning.

"The delivery date will be next Wednesday. I will be in your care from now on director."

The man was in a business that provided office solutions.

"I'll be in your care as well. Oh yes, would I be seeing you next Wednesday as well during the delivery?"

The good-spirited director asked in a friendly manner.

"Of course."

The man nodded while smiling.

"I see. Then next week give me a call before you arrive."

"Understood."

The conversation ended as the man left the director's office.

"Okay. Looks like I've achieved this month's quota. With this I'll be promoted!"

The man muttered with a grin.

After roughly half a year the man has finally secured his promotion from chief to assistant manager.

In the current psychological state, he would have skipped in joy if there wasn't anybody around him.

He was in such a great mood.

But as the man was lost in happiness, as if ridding on an elevator, he suddenly accelerated downwards towards misfortune.

As the man walked towards the exit of the building, the string of his leather shoes loosened and he bent down to retie them.

Right at that moment as the man exit the building.

『Pa~an"』

The man heard a noise like a dry gunshot.

"Uwoo"

Immediately after his surprise, the man felt a sharp pain in his left chest, driving him to his knees.

[Due to the shock from that noise just now? I who have only just entered the thirties ... My heart ...]

The pain passed after just a few seconds.

[What was that sound just now? Did something collapse? Ah..I dirtied my knees.]

As he murmured, the man noticed the eyes around him and tried to stand up but he could not bring energy into his leg.

[Eh? This is bad. Don't tell me the shock from just now affected my strained back? I've heard of such cases before. Eh? But even so I don't feel any pain?]

As the man thought frantically, the surrounding people stared at him while shouting "Call an ambulance!"

[Eh? Maybe the sound just now ... Ahh I see. That really was the sound of a gunshot]

The man guessed. At the same time he felt his body rapidly turn cold.

[I see. But I'm a man about to be promoted? All my hard work up until now, I will not die in such a place!]

The man inspired himself.

But the man could not move. As he knelt, his consciousness gradually left.

During a convenience store robbery escape, the robber shot a

bullet to intimidate the chasing store clerk but ended up hitting the man.

It was a warning shot from a convenience store robbery. The man was accidentally hit on the left chest as he exited the building.

The robber could not withstand the pangs of guilt from accidentally hitting the man and surrendered at the police station hours later.

Promotion.

That was the only thing that supported the man.

As if he allowed himself to die!

He had an extremely strong will.

He was going to invite that girl on a date on the day of his promotion.

That alone was the man's driving force.

Maybe due to that? Using that strong will, the man regained consciousness.

He himself thought so.

Because he woke up normally.

But the place he woke up at was not normal.

The man woke up in a pure white space with nothing at all.

The man laid there alone.

There were more strange points.

The man should have been wearing a suit, but now he wore unfamiliar clothes.

From which era were these clothes from? He felt puzzled.

If I was shot I should be in hospital clothes or sleepwear.

But the current clothes seems like it was made haphazardly.

Other than that there was something else I found weird.

There has been no change to my body at all.

There wasn't any wound on the left chest that was shot.

The man kept thinking while confused.

Where the heck is this place? What kind of place is it? And who changed my clothes?

Various thoughts float in his head as he frantically dispelled them while exploring other possibilities.

The man was a salaryman from of around age 30.

A bachelor but he has dated and had plenty of friends.

But in recent years he drifted apart from friends due to the busy workload. The man was thinking of finding a long term love and marriage partner.

As the man decided, he slowly changed his behavior little by little.

Especially this past year his efforts amazed the people around him.

And finally the result proportional to his effort appeared.

A slight change in topic. The man's hobby was reading.

He started reading when he was in primary school. The books he

read in middle and high school added together number in the thousands.

Since entering university he started reading mobile novels. He proceeded on to light novels and without noticing he became a light novel otaku.

Well not an otaku to the degree that he did not miss any light novels or anime.

It wasn't to the level that would interfere with daily life.

Lately to proceed full force to be promoted, this hobby was sealed.

[Don't tell me this development?]

The man did not want to believe it.

But reality is heartless.

{O unfortunate soul. I reincarnated you}

A voice resounded in my head.

[Could you return me to my original world?]

The man asked immediately.

{You cannot return to a world where there is already a dead body}

As I suspected I died?

[...So which world would I go to?]

{A star called Galdardia. It is a planet made of water and earth similar to Earth.}

[So it is the same as my current world?]

The man asked cautiously.

{It is a world where there are magic and demons}

[That is impossible for the general public. Of course I am aware that there are such light novels and anime. In the past I somewhat wanted such a world. But now that I have become an adult, I don't think I will enjoy the adventure.]

{O unfortunate soul. You and 9 other souls with similar circumstances are going to be reincarnated soon in your current condition. If you don't want that then listen to my explanation}

The man winced and was genuinely scared.

[I am sorry. Please go on.]

The man immediately bowed to the unseen voice.

Is that man a god? He did not expected that he would be threatened so soon.

{As you imagined, you will be reincarnated into a world of swords, magic and demons. I will only reincarnate you there. I will not interfere in anything from then on. Now open your status by saying [Status open] in your mind.}

[Status open]

The man did as he was ordered. His status appeared as he recited the phrase in his mind.

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DEX: 20 (Dexterity)

RMG: 20 (Magical Resistance)

AGI: 20 (Agility)

SP: 100 (Skill, Status point)

【Skills】

None

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10)

[Almost as if it's a game. Haha ...]

The man laughed helplessly.

Suddenly a hologram window appeared from nothing in front of his eyes. What looks like his status was displayed on it.

[Just like fantasy... Eh? I became younger. Is this a service for me?]

Adapting quickly is the strength of a working man.

Therefore the man has already accepted the current situation.

{The set time limit is an hour. I have decided on your race and age. You can decide on the remaining points. There are no family names. I will transmit Galdardia's fundamental knowledge directly

into your brain. An hour later you would be automatically sent to Galdardia. O unfortunate soul, I hope you will achieve happiness in your next life.}

『Piron~』 Such a sound went off. Then a mechanical-like announcement was heard.

《God of Destiny blessing obtained (Increased SP acquisition)》

"Tha...Thank you very muchhhhhh"

As soon as he said his thanks, the mechanical sound rang in his head. His head was wrecked with severe pain as various knowledge that exceeded the allowable amount was planted directly into his brain.

It wasn't the usual kind of pain, it was a dull pain like being beaten on the head with a blunt instrument.

The man's cry of pain lessened.

Although it felt as if he experienced it for a long time, the clock in the status shows that the remaining time limit was 59 minutes and 07 seconds.

[Haa...Haa...Haa... The pain just now was not normal at all.]

After the man felt that his head was beaten by a blunt instrument

without any anesthetics, he felt like something sharp was forcefully pierced into his head repeatedly.

[So I've obtained the fundamental knowledge with that. My head still hurts but time is limited so I will try to steadily advance.]

The Galdardia fundamental knowledge the man obtained showed him information regarding the current existing countries, their respective climate and races, the continent's common currency and common literacy skills.

The man took a deep breath and reluctantly ventured into character creation.

In character creation, he toyed with the initial avatar's face, creating a European like face with deep scarlet eyes and brown hair.

Name ... Eh I can't remember my name? No matter what? ... Then I will combine my MMO names Michael and Lucifer and use the name Luciel.

I stretched my height from 10cm to 185cm, changed hair color from brown to silver, pupils from scarlet to pale purple.

From the obtained knowledge silver hair and purple pupils were common and they match well so this should be fine.

Remaining time 53 minutes huh.

Knowledge-wise...yup. Language-wise capable of reading and writing.

With this I should be fine.

In addition 15 years old is considered an adult so I can start working immediately.

Even so, I wish this is really just a dream.

I did the character creation with the feeling that this is a game.

I did it with only such feelings.

[The reincarnation location is relatively close to a town compared to the plains, forest and labyrinth. However it is influenced by luck. Skills have levels and the highest level of a skill is X? To learn skills I can either spend SP or work hard to gain them.]

I was deep in thought.

With only this amount of basic knowledge I am unaware of too much. The element of luck is quite strong.

Skills are split into attack, defense, magic, support, production, lifestyle, research and tamer?

While touching the status screen to look for holes in the system, there were no search systems or hidden screens. It seems like there is no choice but to steadily find out.

First of all, luck. Although it seems like a gamble, but even at work grabbing the customer also depends on luck. In the first place, there are also people like me without any luck who got shot and had his life end suddenly.

While thinking about that, I calculated the SP required for necessary skills.

Support → Ability value → Luck → Good Luck, Strong Luck, Extreme Luck, Great Luck, Devil's Luck, Absolute Luck, Heaven's Luck appeared but Absolute Luck cost 100P and Heaven's Luck cost 500P so they are out of the question.

For now the candidate is Strong luck which cost 10P.

Next we need magic.

Magic → Magical properties → Light, Holy, Fire, Water, Wind, Earth, Lightning, Dark, Space-time. The four basic magic attributes cost 10P, Holy magic cost 20P, Lightning cost 30P, Light and Dark cost 50P and Space-time cost 100P.

Furthermore other elements necessary for magic usage include, Magic → Chant → Chant Shortening, Chant Termination, Chant

Omission, Magic circles.

But I don't have enough. This is very bad.

What? Of course I am talking about SP.

Overwhelming lack of SP.

Either way I was not expecting something cheat-like from the beginning.

It would be great if I had something like that but this is reality.

Using 20P to obtain Holy magic which is capable of recovery and support magic, Chant Termination for 20P, Chant Omission for 30P and Magic Circle for 30P. I instinctively feel that selecting these at the moment would be very bad.

Cooking and various ordinary skills are found under the Lifestyle skills while Blacksmithing and other ordinary skills are found under Production skills.

There wasn't any special skills under Attack skills either.

And there are pitfalls. Even if I chose the Attack skills, it is possible that I might not have the specific weapon to use the skills with.

I have no idea where I would start from, there would be no point in learning sword skills if I do not start with a sword.

Going by that logic I decided to get the safe choice of Taijutsu (Body Technique) for 5P.

... In this white space I concentrate on obtaining only combat skills to increase my own capabilities.

But I am unlikely to survive with only combat skills.

I read the text while pondering. I tried to look for them but there are no loophole or copy-based skills. I overlapped and repeated simulations as I chose my skills while feeling lost.

In the end I chose Appraisal 20P, Taijutsu 5P, Great luck 50P, Holy Magic Aptitude 20P, Magic Control 5P.

The remaining time was 18 minutes. I went back to look for any flaws in my choices. While doing so I stumbled upon Job choices.

Upon selection a certain screen was displayed.

<Please select your profession>

Below that various professions were listed.

[It seems like I must select this deliberately? If I did not check then wouldn't I have fallen into a trap?]

I thought to myself as I browsed through the professions.

Swordsman, Magician, Healer, Thief, Merchant ... From the myriad of choices I chose Healer.

It might have been better to choose Swordsman or Magician.

But Swordsman or Magician may not be able to use or even learn recovery magic. One can never be too careful.

The remaining time is 9 minutes and 42 seconds...Before pressing the button, I review my skill choices and try to remember skills that I will likely spend SP to obtain or work hard to gain.

When I confirmed my choices with more than 3 minutes to go, I appeared standing in a meadow holding 3 silver coins.

A meadow with nothing around as far as the eyes can seen.

" ... Don't tell me it is raining money?"

Luciel muttered as he looked up at the sky.

He took a deep breath to calm his spirit.

After calming down, he decided take a look around.

Quite a distance away, there was something that looks like the outer walls of a city.

Judging by the size capable of being seen from such a long distance away, it might be a large city.

Relieved to see a city firmly in the distance, Luciel stayed vigilant towards his surroundings as he advanced towards the city.

{I have fulfilled my promise with these 10 souls}

{Certainly. It might be a slightly interesting if the world changes with this.}

{I only gave you mediocre souls. Without souls with high adaptability, they will fall into difficult situations and are unlikely to survive.}

{Well both of us can only watch without interfering, if they all die then we can exchange another bet.}

{ ... If I feel like it. See you.}

One of the lights disappeared.

{Ahh~ I wonder if it will be interesting this time.}

Muttered the other light as it disappeared.

The God of Destiny gave 10 souls including Luciel's soul to the other world's Chief God.

The God of Destiny lost a bet with the other world's Chief God and transferred 10 mediocre souls.

The God of Destiny only gave his blessing to Luciel's soul.

It was Luciel's fate to die but he fought against his fate by sheer will to stay in his present world for as long as possible.

Because of that, be it good luck or bad luck, he was selected as one of the ten souls.

That was why the God of Destiny gave his blessing to Luciel's soul. To watch over his future as he passed his soul to the other world's chief god.

Both the God of Destiny and Galdardia's Chief God do not know what this blessing will bring about.

And so 10 souls from earth reincarnated in Galdardia.

Name: Luciel

Age: 15

Job: Healer

LV: 1

HP: 200

MP: 50

STR: 20

INT: 20

VIT: 20

MGI: 20

DEX: 20

RMG: 20

AGI: 20

SP: 0

Magic Aptitude: Holy

【Skills】

「Appraisal－」

「Great luck－」

「Taijutsu I」

「Magic Power Control I 」

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」(All status +10)

「God of Destiny's blessing」(Increased SP acquisition)

Book 1: Healer, Knocking On The Door Of The Adventurer's Guild

Chapter 001: Healer's Guild

The weather is great and there is a road so the journey is easy.

[I was mentally prepared for the long walk but ... it really is far. It was really scary when I spotted a monster in the distance just now. I really wish they would stop sending people into another world empty handed. The only salvation I have is this rock I picked up that seems easy to throw. Haa~ could I really survive in this world? Ahh~ this is terrifying.]

I continued to walk all alone to keep my feelings in check.

I couldn't bring out my courage without the cheat abilities of a light novel's main character.

Even if the standard goblin monster attacks me, I have a feeling I will lose.

Currently, the only thought in my mind was to survive.

Only that single thought.

While checking my surroundings, I reached approximately 300 meters from the city and finally felt relieved as I spot human figures. I brisk walk towards the door-like location.

"What a splendid outer wall. If the exterior is so splendid then

the interior should be quite respectable as well."

While commenting aloud, rocky outer walls unseen in my previous life comes into view as I approach the city gates.

Identification is needed to enter the city. I pray to god that I can somehow enter while waiting in line.

"Show me your identification papers."

Said the gate soldier holding a spear.

He is slightly shorter than me but the thickness of his arms are at least three times larger compared to mine.

I would go down with just one punch from that log-sized arm.

I spun my words while holding that impression of the guard.

"I come from a small village. I was immediately sent out of my village after I became an adult so I don't have any identification papers. I came to this city intending to work under the Healer's Academy."

I told the gate guard while adding in some acting.

"Huh? The Healer's Academy? Please wait a while"

Eh? That did it? I intended to take advantage of the knowledge I obtained but did I just unnecessarily dig a grave for myself?

I felt anxious. Should I run? No. It will be checkmate if I run.

As I was deep in thought, the earlier guard returned together with a woman.

The woman had clear blonde hair that extended beyond her shoulders, clad in a pure white robe exuding a beautiful and dignified atmosphere. I was momentarily fascinated.

"Are you the applicant who wish to join the Healer's Academy?"

"Yes. I have aptitude for Holy magic and my profession is Healer so I came to the city with the intent to practice."

"Okay. Then firstly please follow me to obtain your Healer Guild's identification papers."

With only that said the woman starts walking away.

I thank the gate guard while thinking just who is that woman? I frantically chased after the woman walking rapidly away to try asking her a question.

"Um, is there no toll for entering the city?"

She replied while smiling.

"Only the Empire requires Healers to pay a toll."

She continued on that there are other reasons but mainly due to the Healer's Headquarters situated in this country, just by being a Healer you will be treated better.

In addition, you can be jailed if you lie about having aptitude for Holy magic so it seems like nobody makes false declarations regarding that.

Right after reincarnating in this country, my 「Great luck」 immediately worked in my favor. Does this exhibit the merit of having 「Great luck」? I grin to myself as I frantically chased after the woman.

As we walk on a beautiful cobblestone road, I had a feeling that I wanted to walk on similar streets in my previous life. But I couldn't make the woman guiding me wait so I put away my nostalgia and increased my pace.

The woman finally stopped in front of a huge building.

" This is Saint Schull's church Meratoni branch's Healer's Guild."

She entered the building as she was talking and turned around to

say.

"Welcome to the Healer's Guild"

Ah~ I feel kind of happy.

"Thank you very much."

I felt slightly embarrassed but I thanked her properly.

"Lumina-sama, how may I help you?"

The voice came from a slightly bewitching nubile beauty at the reception desk.

Wait a minute. Did she just address the woman that guided me as -sama (honorific)? Is she a prominent person? If I remember correctly she is called Lumina-san?

"This child here was selected as a Healer during his village's coming of age ceremony. I hope to confirm this with the Healer's Guild and complete his identification papers."

Lumina-san explained to the receptionist as she moved towards the counter.

"Ahh~ I see. Then once again, welcome. This way towards the

Healer's Guild. Here are the documents needed for the procedure to register as a Healer. Please fill them in."

I handed over the parchments at the counter she led me to.

On the paper I filled in my name, race and age but feigned ignorance regarding my birthplace.

"For my birthplace is it okay if I just indicate it as 'village'? Even if the village has a name I have no idea?"

"Hahh? Ah, 'cough'. Well if you don't know then it should be fine."

It was just for a moment but this reception lady ... what did she just say? She made such a face? It was fleeting so maybe I am mistaken?

The receptionist resumed her smiling face as if nothing had happened. Earlier, the receptionist I handed my documents over disappeared into a room behind the counter.

"Eh? Registration passed with just 'village'? This is a city right?"

Lumina and the woman she called out to sighs.

"You really are ignorant huh."

She said that while feeling appalled.

Those cold eyes was not a reward to me. It was simply scary.

"I'll try my best from now on." (Luciel)

She lowered her head as she sighs again.

Shortly afterwards the receptionist returned.

"Please channel your magic into this."

Said the receptionist as she passed me a card.

... It was good that I obtained 「Magic Power Control」. Due to that skill I understood how to use magic.

A flow of what appeared to be magical power flowed into the card. The card then emitted light as words floated up.

Healer's Guild Meratoni branch affiliate G rank Healer Luciel

"Here you go."

I returned the card. The receptionist once again disappears into the room behind the counter.

"May I ask what was that for?"

"Ah that was to record your card. With that you can use it at any Healer's Guild around the world."

"I see."

What is the reason for that feature? I was worried for the assumption that there would be travelling.

Well I wonder if I should ask people about that.

The receptionist came back and passed the card to me.

"Thank you for waiting. You are definitely a healer. You have both aptitude for Holy magic and magic control."

"Do you have any enquiries?"

Asked Lumina-san. Wouldn't this be bad if this continues? And so I intentionally exposed myself.

"I'm sorry. I have not used Holy magic before, nor can I use magic."

I honestly told them.

"What do you mean?"

Isn't that look a bit too intimidating Lumina-sama?

"Is there a problem? I have not read any spell books and I am the first healer from my village so please let me know if there is anything strange?"

"Haa~ That's right I remembered you are ignorant."

Lumina-san believed me. Acting ignorant earlier helped. But somehow ... I felt like tearing.

"Erm~ I have completed the registration but is there anywhere that I can't work at as a subordinate worker?"

Lumina-san's mouth was agape after hearing my question.

"You have three choices. 'Sparta', 'Loan' and 'Groundwork'."

Erm Lumina-san? You have been emitting an intimidating aura since just now?

"Could you please explain the choices in detail?"

"Umu. In the case of 'Sparta', you will chant until your magic is

depleted as you study to memorise healing magic. After your magic has been restored from sleep you will repeat the same process again. In the case of 'Loan', because there isn't a specialised Healer's school, you will enter an ordinary academy and learn magic for three years. However, you would need to return 10 gold coins to the Healer's Guild upon completion. Finally for 'Groundwork', for the duration of a year you will complete chores while memorizing Holy magic during your spare time."

The first choice I won't die but I will be under severe mental stress in a short time.

Second choice is kind of similar to a scholarship. From my previous life's experience I know that this would be pretty tough as well.

As for the third choice ... chores ... I am not sure if I would have any free time at all. But this certainly would be the most reliable choice.

No wait. I should be able to endure 'Sparta'. That's right. Didn't I acquire 「Appraisal」 for reasons like this? With this skill I should not get mentally cornered to that degree.

I should be able to manage if I raise my fighting spirit here. I will advance from a Healer newbie into a Healer apprentice. Yes I will aim for promotion. Those thoughts gave birth to vigour in my heart.

"Please assign me for the 'Sparta' course. I would like to make full

use of my time."

I said while bowing down after consolidating my thoughts.

Haa~. A sigh was heard from the receptionist. She spoke when I looked up.

"Lumina-sama, please leave this to us. Well then come over here Luciel."

The receptionist left the counter and started walking. I immediately chased after the receptionist, but not before turning around and properly thanking Lumina-san.

"Thank you very much for everything Lumina-sama?"

"It is fine to address me without -sama. Do your best Luciel-kun. I place my expectations in you."

She saw me off while saying so.

That dignified figure and beautiful attractive smile, needless to say I saved that memory in my brain.

I chased after the receptionist while apologizing for the wait.

"Please practice while reading the spell books in this room. We

will bring you your meals in the morning and evening. Then when your magic has been depleted, I think it would be unbearable so please rest on that bed over there. Continue practicing once you wake up. Please repeat that process."

The receptionist left after informing me.

"Ah, I did not get the receptionists name nor did I greet her. Ku, that's the fundamental requirement of a working adult. Get a grip myself."

I entered the room as I hit myself on the head.

The room looked just like a studio apartment. As for the toilet, it was the lid type that appears in period dramas. Instead of toilet paper, there were pieces of some unknown rough material.

Naturally there wasn't a bath tub. In addition, there were no windows as well. It would likely be painful to not know the change in time.

Am I feeling depressed due to the environment here?

While thinking so, I proceeded on to the spell books and spell instructional books.

For me this was the best environment to raise my proficiency levels.

I only realised it was so later on.

It was a great place to concentrate without any danger to my life, to have meals prepared for me and to not be disturbed by anyone.

"Yosh I'm fired up. I will remember the magic within ten days. You can do it Luciel."

I persuaded myself towards my goal of becoming a healer apprentice.

Thus Luciel's healing magic training began.

Chapter 002: Promotion To Healer Apprentice

It's only a common magic tome(book), but the basics of magic are mentioned in details.

I summarized based on what i understand.

STEP 1

Sense the magic power inside the body, those are the first thing to do to use magic.

If you cannot do that, then you have to doubt if you have the talent to use magic, those are emphasized strongly.

STEP 2

After succeeding on sensing magic inside the body, move the magic inside the body around. In other words, it's necessary to learn magic power manipulation.

It's also written that moving the magic inside the body will consume a person's magic power and to do your best to persevere. It's written that there are a lot of people who failed the magic power manipulation even if it's hard so you have to try your best.

It also written skilled magic user could use just a fifth of the magic power compared to a newbie who is using the same magic. Then it mentioned that the basic magic training should be done for a lifetime.

I managed to understand these. That is because the usage of high magic requires that you don't have any loss of magic power.

STEP 3

After learning both internal magic sensing and magic power manipulation, next is the intervention of magic power outside the body which is called magic power control

It is possible to use magic after managing to do those, but at this level the ability of control are still weak and when invoking the magic it could possibly causing a disaster for both of the caster and the target.

STEP 4

It's written to use level 1 chanting for the aptitude attribute.

It's written that when the chanting is success, the magic power flow to the outside of the body and skill level will increase.

To the degree that if you cannot remember the chant, you need to repeat it from the very beginning. Those are what are written in the magic tome.

If you cannot do it means you don't have talent and better to give up So far it has been using polite explanation and this last sentence made it waste it all and made it sounded like it's trying to find fault with me.

「What would the kid that found this hard would think? The most important thing is exercise! This sentence that telling someone to give up is definitely weird!!」

I hold the ire in my heart to calm myself, and began to flip the page, and i found an entry about something that is necessary for magic. (Ire written in english)(ire = intense anger)

- Magic is an act of chanting to use magic power as one's image to cause a phenomenon by offering magic powers towards the

Supreme God of Galdardia, Criar-sama.

•By putting clear image with the magic power, if your magic power control which let you interfere with magic power outside your body improves, and your understanding for the magic increases will results in shortening the chanting, cancelling it would also be possible.

What are written in the tome.

「Magic is kinda similar to religion. Now then, I need to try it at least once」

I took a deep breath and exhale it out and begin to concentrate.

「Suu~ haa~ ok. 【O lord, With my magic power as provision, let me recover this person, Heal】」

I begin the magic chant while being conscious to recover wounds than the healing power itself. But, there is nothing... No, wait, even just a little bit there is a feeling that something is off. Though the magic itself is not activated.

「Well, I'm not a genius after all nor am I a cheat, just a normal person」

I confirmed my status while making an excuse even though I don't know what the effect are and activate the 『Proficiency Appraisal』 into Holy Magic 0 and a window that displayed 【5/1000】 appear.

「Thank god. Seems there is no mistake that I can use it」

I decided to chant the spell without making an image. Then the

amount of proficiency that increased are only 1.

「Seems there is a need to make an image beforehand」

Because the amount of magic power that displayed on the screen decreased by 10, it seems that each Heal used 5 magic power.

I realized that i can used heal up to 10 times, so I practiced the heal 10 times while holding the image while chanting.

When I was chanting for the 10th time my magic power recovered by 1 and by the end of it my remaining magic power is 1. There is still 1 magic power remains but I can feel the state of exhausting my magic power. I feel terrible headaches and giddiness, and it's not even possible to stand up for 10 minutes.

Even when I could stand up after that, I feel so bad that i just fall down on top of the bed.

I calmed down after awhile and begin to check my status. My magic power is restored to 5 point.

「I can't keep going like this. It take too much time... If the magic tome is to be trusted, to prevent this kind of bad feeling, would it be better to spend some time to learn magic power manipulation and magic power control? Once I get used to it, the magic consumption should decrease.」

I decided to put it into practice after simulating it.

「If my magic power manipulation and magic power control increase, then the necessary magic power needed would lessened, I should work hard on it」

After that I made an effort meditating to sense the magic power, performing magic manipulation, and looking for a method to recover my magic power by trials and errors.

I concentrated about the matter of magic and magic power itself, about the time when my magic power is barely exhausted. I heard the door being knocked three times.

「Please enter」

I somehow managed to gave a reply,

「Oh, are you taking a break? Wait, your face is extremely pale, are you alright?」

When the door opened, the receptionist from back there is there delivering my meal, but she seems to be worried about my pale face instead.

「Yeah, somehow. Rather than that, I want to apologize for forgetting to give my self introduction back then. I'm called Rushiel . Right now I simply exhausted my magic power so there is no need to worry about it. Thank you for have preparing my meal.」

「Fufufu. Still so young but already dependable. My name is Kururu. After you finish your meal, please put the tableware outside of the room. Also, doing something unreasonable is prohibited. If a healer died inside the healer's guild, then it will cause the credibility of the guild itself to drop」

「Wawawa. That is natural aren't they? But I managed to get the hang of it even if it's just a little bit so I have to keep trying.」

「Well... From your words you seems to be alright. Be sure to take a proper sleep. That way magic power will restored.」

「Understood. Kururu-san」

I gave a salute to her. When Kururu-san see that, she got out of the room while giggling.

After eating the delivered meal I begin to start chanting again, this is the second time for today that I experienced magic power exhaustion and feel like crap, I decide to end today's training and go to sleep.

I don't know for how long I sleep. There is a ceiling that I don't recognize when I open my eyes, I am disappointed by the fact that I got reincarnated, I quickly changed my feeling to get back to my business.

「I've already died in my previous life. The standard of living should increase if I work hard. Work hard, Me」

Thus the me that get fired up tried to read the magic tome and noticed that the room is bright.

「Now that I think about it, Are they using electricity to constantly keep the room bright? Or is it magic power and magic stone? I need to find out.」

While thinking and muttering about such things, the magic training are resumed until breakfast arrive.

I've been chanting and exhausting my magic power ever since awoken but breakfast still hasn't arrive.

For some reason Rushiel has an increase of concentration.

Ever since being conscious of the magic power in this small room, for some reason has been able to feel the magic power properly.

When proficiency was appraised a while ago, various kind of stuff has increased.

「When the objective is clear it become very rewarding. There is a sense of achievement because there are stuff that's improve.」

As for me, since hard work is directly related to the result, if I work hard it will obviously return the result with as much as I worked and it make feel motivated.

Since you cannot know whether you will improve or not, people will work harder if they have a target.

There are also various new discoveries. For example, meditating will improve meditation, concentration, and magic power recovery. (TLN: Those three are counted as skill)

At the moment I should try various things and try to improve the stuff that I can improve.

Trying to move my battered body, Should I organize my thoughts? Exactly while I'm thinking about that kind of stuff my proficiency increase by 1, it's pretty shocking since I've been doing it for a whole day.

Even if there are failures, I continue making an effort.

「I'm an ordinary person afterall. A main character in a story really is awesome. Well... even if at the present my hard work didn't paid off, my heart won't be broken so easily.」

And by the 4th meal, it seems it has become the 3rd day's morning, and by that time I can already use Heal. (TLN Day 1 : Dinner, Day 2: Breakfast & dinner, Day 3 : Breakfast.)

But I want to maintain the current situation since it's really good, I decide to live in here for a little bit longer.

Because i worked hard and able to acquire the meditation, concentration, and magic power recovery skill safely when checking with the Proficiency Appraisal, I decided to leave the room where I locked myself in the past week after arriving here.

When I go to the receptionist, Kururu-san isn't there.

「Erm, Excuse me. I'm the guy who has been learning holy attribute magic there, today I've finally able to use holy attribute magic.」

I speak to the receptionist.

「Congratulations. Then, can you please lend me your card?」

I hand my card to the receptionist who answer with a smile and receive my card back after the procedure is finished.

In the card, Holy Magic, Meditation, Concentration, Magic power recovery are listed.

「Contratulations. You have been working quite hard aren't you?
The please pay a sum of 1 silver coin」

Eh? Have to pay money? while thinking those things 「A, Okay」
and I pay it. It's good that I have a silver coin with me.

「Excuse me. What should I do after this, Should i go and look for
Rumina-sama?」

「Eh? Were you the person that Rumina-sama brought here?
Please excuse me. In that case I will return this silver coin to you.
By the instruction of Rumina-sama the rent for the room for magic
training is free of charge for up to 10 days.」

Oo. Rumina-san is an awesome person after all. And once more
my Great Luck skill showed its ability.

Thank you very much great luck sensei.

「Then, is it possible to rent the room for another 3 days?」

「Yes. It is alright if you wished for it. You have been training
diligently so far, the guild itself has no problem with it」

The receptionist answer while smiling. (TLN: Gender Neutral.)

When I asked about it, I received a reply about it. When I'm
thinking about what to do.

「Thank you very much. Which remind me, when registering I

didn't hear anything about it, can you tell me what kind of guild the healer guild are?」

「Hee? Ah, yes. Healer guild are an organization that born in order to treat people. The ranks for holy attribute are divided into 10 ranks which are G、F、E、D、C、B、A、AA、AAA、S which gradually rises. There are a lot of people who polished their skill in a healing house and go independent later on. While the request for a transfer for a healer is rarely come, you are allowed to refuse it. In addition, in the case that you cannot find a healing house n, the healer guild will employ you so there is no need for worries.

I understand now. It means there will be works. Ah, I should ask about that.

「Can someone... join both the healer guild and adventurer guild?」

「Of course. It is possible but it's not recommended. A healer is acquisition for attack skill are hard. Even if aiming at increasing the rank of the new job, that said job won't receive any experience and it won't increase in level.

Because the necessary job level that needed is VI and above, being a healer can be said as one of the hardest job to level.」

The receptionist told me kindly. By the way, if you didn't defeat monster, your body level won't rise.

The main income for a healer is their heal and the market price cost is 1 silver coin per heal.

As for the member of the healer guild, depending on the rank an offering is collected as a tax. To maintain G rank for a year cost 12 silver annually.

For each increase in ranks, the amount increase by 12.

Those healer that can't earn money, they seems similar to being a corporate slave that need warning.

But if you manage to rank up, seems you can buy a higher rank magic tome for recovery magic to learn the chanting cheaply as a merit.

Annual payment of donation seems to be possible if you manage to learn one high rank recovery magic. I haven't hear about this kind of sweet deal, a part of me listen to this with a grain of salt.

Changing the subject, there are people who charge for an exorbitant amount of money, there are a lot of trouble between healing house and investigation committee and get their guild-issued certificate revoked, if that happens the healing house cannot continue to operate which are a matter of life and death.

「Because it has been made cheaper, please don't cause the guild any trouble」

I was requested to do that.

By the way, there is no qualification for the healer, some secretly do a treatment, in the case that someone doesn't have any

affiliation with a healing house, in the case someone raise a complaint, the jail awaits, so please think things through when doing your job. The receptionist added.

After hearing about various stuff, as a thanks I paid the guild a silver coin as donation and after that I leave the healer guild.

By the way, the receptionist is called Monika-san, she is a beautiful woman who has light-blue hair whose glasses suits her and giving off an atmosphere of being intelligent.

Chapter 003: Adventurer's Guild

I had obtained the qualifications from the Healer's Guild. Typically healers would apply for apprenticeship in a clinic but I decided to go against the flow.

Then where were I headed towards? Yes. It wasn't a clinic. It was the Adventurer's Guild.

"Still, this is way too different from the Healer's Guild. What is with this dangerous atmosphere?"

I murmured in the unforgiving atmosphere. I proceeded to not think about anything and aimed for the reception counter.

"Excuse me, I would like to register as an adventurer."

The person I casually spoke to was the first beastman race (in fact a beastwoman) I've seen in this world.

I felt excited.

However I suppressed my excitement and decided to converse plainly using my work mode.

If I changed my attitude due to feeling impressed here, I will definitely be attacked by some template-like situation.

Once that happens, I could only imagine my death.

The current me had no room to spare for such an encounter even if you presented it to me slowly.

"Welcome to the Adventurer's Guild. Please fill in your name, race and age here."

Beast-san passed a parchment to me with a beautiful smile. The fields on the registration form were basically the same as the one from the Healer's Guild with the exception that this form didn't have a 'birthplace' requirement.

Is this because there are many rowdy individuals around? Presently I am unable to even ask such a thing.

"Please either infuse blood or magical power into this card."

I immediately channeled my magical power into the card and returned it to the receptionist.

"Okay. Everything is in order. Because you already have the 「Taijutsu」 skill the adventurer's registration is complete.

Thus I received my adventurer's card and am now an adventurer.

Following that, the receptionist with cute bunny ears frantically gave me a description of the Adventurer's guild.

I did not have much room to spare in my memory so I didn't listen properly.

Various information such as one cannot register for the Adventurer's Guild without possessing an attack skill were redundant as I have already completed my registration.

By the way I passed my registration because I possessed the 「Taijutsu」 skill.

She went on to explain the Adventurer Guild's ranking system but I didn't have much interest in it so I didn't pay any attention to her.

The important point was that upon successfully completing a request, 10% of the reward would be deducted as a management fee for the guild.

That's about it.

Of course, I start from the lowest adventurer rank of H.

I have no complaints.

"Please take note that there would be a penalty if you fail a request."

Those words remained in my ear.

I input only the important points into my head while I moved on to the main reason I came to the Adventurer's Guild.

"Can adventurers put up requests as well?"

"Yes, you can."

Her ears bobbed up and down as she nodded.

Yup. It is cute but I don't have the time for it right now.

"You mentioned that there is a training ground downstairs? Are there anybody who can guide me to increase my 「Taijutsu」 skill?"

"Yes, of course there are. There are staffs who are adventurers as well. However although it is training, a certain fee is charged depending on the duration of guidance. Are you okay with that?"

Well as expected. Indeed it was too much to expect of 「Great Luck」to generate volunteers to guide me.

"How much would it cost for guidance from a polite person who gives easy to understand instructions?"

It seems likely that I would be beaten to death if I make a mistake

when learning from a rough person.

"Hmm. Well~ It is up to negotiations but 1 hour would cost roughly 1 silver."

That's quite a bit more costly than expected.

"Ah, erm, are there any requests for healers? Could I get a discount or offset the price by providing healing services?"

"... We don't have such a thing ... Could you please wait a moment?"

"Of course."

Bunny ears-san disappeared underground after listening to my reply.

Following that I felt a really sharp stare from behind my back. Maybe it was a right choice to continue standing in place as I somehow didn't get tangled up in a situation.

After I withstood the pressure for a few minutes, the receptionist who finally returned summoned me towards a rugged-looking old man.

"Are you the fledgling that can use healing magic?"

He had a tart voice and scars all over his body including his face reminiscent of military sergeants found in manga. However, in my previous life I met plenty of tough-looking directors that were surprisingly kind, so I persuaded to myself that such prejudice is useless and answered.

"Yes. I was allowed to register as an adventurer just now. My name is Luciel. I wish to improve both martial arts and healing magic. I consulted the receptionist for any requests to earn some money as well."

"Hou. How rare in spite of being a healer. My name is Broad. It seems like you already have the 「Taijutsu」 skill? Why would a healer want more fighting capabilities?

He detected my skill just by the power of observation.

"Because I am useless in actual combat. I have not mentally prepared myself and if I get attacked by a common weak monster during my travels I will likely die. I strive to prevent that from happening and I wish to at least improve until the stage where I am capable of defending myself.

Broad-san agreed with a 『Fumu』. He rubbed his chin and thought for a while before he opened mouth.

"That is fine. Because you are H rank, we will hire you as a healing personnel for the arena. The pay is 1 silver for 1 hour. The working hours and employment period is up to you. When would you like to start training?"

Ah, this person might be a nice person after all.

"If that is the case then I will start three days later."

"Understood. Nanaera, I leave the arrangements to you."

"Yes, Broad-san. Ah, I am Nanaera. I look forward to working with you."

"Nanaera-san right. I will be in your care."

As I exchanged greetings with Nanaera-san, I feel the stare from before become stronger.

But Broad-san was no longer in my line of sight.

This person was my mentor.

I left the Adventurer's Guild feeling impressed and head back to the Healer's Guild.

"You are perspiring a lot. Are you okay?"

I assured Monica-san that I am fine and escaped to my own room.

"If I can't cast healing magic despite being a healer, I have a feeling Broad-san would give up on me."

I piled on practice as I imagined a future that I do not want to happen.

However, because the required skill proficiency doubled, I tried to concentrate and memorize holy magic but my skill proficiency did not rise well.

I solidified the image in my mind, concentrated on my blood vessels, muscles and bone. But each 「Heal」I used did not raise my skill proficiency as much as before. One 「Heal」only raised proficiency by a maximum of 4.

I trained while pondering but three days passed in the blink of an eye.

I left my room and proceeded to the first floor.

"Thank you very much, Krull-san."

This time Krull-san was the receptionist.

"Yup. Please work hard. Also if you see Lumina-sama be sure to thank her."

"Yup. Of course I will."

After saying so, I began moving towards the Adventurer's Guild.

As usual a dangerous atmosphere drifted about within the Adventurer's Guild. I reached the reception counter after tensely walking at a quick pace to avoid attention.

"Welcome. Are you here to accept, report or post a request?"

The receptionist today is a human race woman roughly about 20 years old. I told her my purpose for coming here.

"I am Luciel who made a request for Broad-san and received a request from Broad-san."

"Could you please lend me your adventurer's card? Luciel-sama it is. Broad-san is waiting for you underground. Thank you."

The conversation proceeded smoothly.

"Likewise, thank you."

I descended down the stairs as instructed and I saw something that looks just like an arena? It was a building that momentarily makes people mistake it for something else.

The training field was an enormous 100m square field.

"Sure is wide."

I murmured.

"It sure is. Fledgling? Let us begin immediately. I will begin from the basics so don't run away okay."

I turned back to look because I suddenly heard his voice.

So Broad-san was there. Since when? As I was thinking, I suddenly felt a pressure that I have never felt before and prepared a stance. And I wondered if it was a mistake to issue a request to Broad-san as he sent an oppressive pressure towards me.

I think that there is no way I can ask my past self that.

And so my training started.

"Hey hey hey, run properly. You would be goblin bait if you have no spirit."

I ran at full speed around the perimeter while being bathed in jeers.

"Hey your body is too stiff. If you do that you will get injured."

I was gradually squeezed to my limit as he pointed out my flaws.

"Use your hands. Extend your feet. You are too slow."

While receiving strong comments I fainted again and again, just to have water poured on me each time.

I was thinking to myself.

Certainly he is teaching me necessary pointers for 「Taijutsu」. But where was the polite guidance that I requested for?

While under constant supervision, I trained in accordance to Broad-san's training method. Training was very hard but at least it wasn't painful.

Although I vowed to concentrate and make an effort, I was puzzled as to why there wasn't much difficult contents.

Rather than running away I wonder if it's really okay like this? I repeatedly asked and answered myself as I followed his voice.

Broad established only one single rule on me.

That I cannot use healing magic on myself.

He explained that instead of using healing magic, relying on

natural recovery to occur allows one to learn skills related to increasing the recovery amount of stamina.

I obediently obeyed after hearing that reasoning.

And so until I master the stamina recovery skill I decided to endure from using healing magic.

Instead of healing myself, I healed the wounds of other adventurers. I continued to use the healing magic「Heal」, once I reach the magic depletion state I would resume my 「Taijutsu」 training to improve my stamina.

I meditate whenever I could no longer move my body, promoting the recovery of my magical power and stamina, and then resumed the training to strengthen my 「Taijutsu」.

At last such a long day was finally over.

"Kid. You have guts. Alright. From today onwards stay in the guild. We will provide for your three meals. It doesn't seem like you have any change of clothes so we'll provide you with some old clothes as well. Don't worry they have been washed. However, don't run away halfway okay?"

Instructor Broad said to me. Ooo! Bed and even three meals are provided free of charge. Great Luck-sensei really shines.

"Hahaha. Yes. Thank you very much."

After saying my thanks, I washed my body at the well behind the guild and was treated to a meal in the dining hall. Then I was guided to the sleeping chambers and laid on the bed as if I was made of mud ... but I didn't sleep.

No, I couldn't sleep.

"I am tired but how can modern people sleep at 19:00?"

In this manner after alternating between training healing magic and meditation for three hours, I eventually decided to sleep.

The next day I was deep in thought while staring at the ceiling reflected in my field of vision.

"It's got to be the bad influence of novels for me to stare at the ceiling."

I murmured as I welcomed the morning.

As I exited the sleeping chambers, the guild staffs were surprised that I woke up so early.

"Among the healers usually most of them are sloppy with time?"

As I conversed with the staff, I thought to myself [Do all healers oversleep?].

Just as instructed by Instructor Broad, I began running around the training field after doing my stretches.

Then, as I was making an effort to use magic while running, Broad-san invited me over for breakfast at the dining hall.

"Kid, it's breakfast. Come."

I came here yesterday and I suppose I'll be having my meals here in the future as well.

"Grulga. This is Luciel who I was talking about yesterday. Take care of his three meals a day from now on.

A dog beastman the size of a bear emerged.

"Understood. I'm Grulga. I've received payment from Broad so eat whatever you fancy. But apart from that, you must drink this disgusting drink that is good for your body after meals."

An issued drink? Wa, it has a strangely poisonous color.

"Th .. this is?"

I stare at the ominous Object X.

"Simply put it is something that has the effect of helping your growth. It will raise your muscle strength, endurance and response speed (Or so I'm told)."

Is it a protein supplement? I tsukkomi-ed in my mind as I posed a question to bear-san in front of me.

"I have not heard of this substance before but what are the effective duration and demerits?"

"It is effective for 6 hours and the only demerit is that it taste really damn bad so be at ease."

He grinned with a savage face.

I've finished my meal and after preparing myself, I declared while holding a cup.

"Then, I'll drink."

All in one mouthful. The moment it enters your mouth, it gives you a feeling that you should not drink such a thing.

As expected of Object X for the taste and smell to almost make me lose consciousness but I was too afraid of the bear to spit it out.

The taste of bitterness like mud, bad odor, egg, spiciness and sourness moved about back and forth in my mouth. Somehow I

managed to endure and swallowed it in one breath.

I felt a weird queasy feeling pervade my body.

"Ooo. Just like Broad described, you're a sturdy person to be able to drink that."

" ??? "

Bear-san murmured something that I couldn't catch.

"It's nothing. Come lets work hard to train 「Taijutsu 」today as well."

I was sent out after I was told so.

"So that was Luciel? To be able to drink this completely. Man he seriously has guts."

Grulga murmured in a low voice unheard by Luciel.

Chapter 004: Training 1 - Talent In Martial Arts

"Today my muscles hurt as well huh."

As soon as I woke up the joints in my body all screamed in pain.

"As I thought this happens when I get carried away."

For this entire week I had been tormented by muscle aches every time I got up in the morning.

However, I myself was cause of this.

My muscles did not ache the next day after I finished my first day of training. I judged that my current body's physical ability was higher compared to my previous life's body when I was younger and got carried away.

"While training under Instructor Broad certainly is tough, since I do not feel any muscle ache could you further increase the training?"

I made such a foolish proposal.

"Hou? For a healer say that, I didn't think that you would have such fortitude."

Until today I could never forget the eyes of Instructor Broad then.

Those sharp sparking eyes like that of a hunter spotting his prey.

At that moment I wondered why did I let it get to my head. I regretted it and began to have a very unpleasant cold feeling run up my spine.

"Do not rest, do not think about the pace, just run as fast as you can."

From that day onwards I was forced to run at full force to the ends of the training field.

"How do you expect to defeat monsters with such frail punches. Lower your posture and rotate your hips. Do not stop attacking with just a single blow. You can't expect monsters to be so weak. Do you wish to die? Huh no response? Does that mean you want to die?

The abnormally intimidating aura was gradually pressed towards me.

The terror from the slowly approaching Instructor Broad was extraordinary.

My body became heavy like lead from the horror. I forcibly punched with my hardened fists and somehow managed to kick with my leg that I tensed like a rod.

I continued to forcibly attack as I could already imagine dying if I did not do so.

However, inevitably damages were being accumulated on both hands and feet due to forcibly using them when deprived of stamina.

But still training did not end.

"End? Do you want to die? Understood. Then here I come. Kid, don't close your eyes. Hurry up and defend or dodge if you can."

I had difficulty moving due to the accumulated damage. Instructor Broad who knew this starts attacking me in slow motion. He attacked me to try to determine my limit.

Switching from attacking to defending, I somehow blocked the attack but fainted in agony from the pain that was beyond my imagination.

"That's what you get for defending without thinking. Each attack has a meaning behind it, if you respond wrongly towards it then you will experience that pain. Observe, think and learn it for dear life!"

In between training sessions I healed the wounds of other adventurers who visited us.

Under Instructor Broad's supervision, I chanted 「Heal」 on the adventurers. This period served as my break time.

For me who had been strictly prohibited from using 「Heal」 on myself, my current schedule was eight hours or more of stamina building and 「Taijutsu」 training from 07:00 in the morning until 07:00 at night with break times squeezed in between.

For that reason I was really thankful for the break times.

At any rate, this was an environment I created on my own.

There was no reason to feel sorry for myself as I drove myself into this corner.

The only thing I looked forward to was the three meals. The meals were very delicious even when compared with that from my previous life.

The cuisine that dog beastman Grulga prepared was different every time. He possess quite a repertoire of dishes.

Meat dishes ranging from freshly made beef steak to hamburger, stewed dishes like beef stew or pot-au-feu, something similar to yakiudon and other boiled dishes were made. An abundance of spices were used for each and every dish.

Yes. As if to conceal something various spices were used.

In addition there were no raw vegetables but nutritious steamed vegetable salads were always present during breakfast.

Well with regards to the portion size, I'll repeat it just like how it was said to me in a matter of fact manner.

"It is within the nature of an adventurer to eat. Don't leave anything behind."

Just like the customs from some culture, it was not tolerated to leave food behind. If only it was just this ...

"Here. Drink this as well."

This was the other problem. I always had to drink that Object X after each meal.

I wished that they spared me from just this.

In that manner, that past week I somehow desperately devoured the training without trying to escape.

No, to be exact I would have been caught if I tried to run away.

I believed that I was currently monitored not only by Instructor Broad and Grulga-san but also by the adventurers.

I had no idea why but every time I thought of escaping somebody would call out to me.

"Oh healer, 「Heal」 please."

I do not dare to ignore the tough-looking adventurers who called out to me.

Furthermore that was not the only escape prevention measure.

"I've always been in your care."

Adventurers and guild staffs would say so while they gave me presents like clothes or accessories. Because of that my personal belongings gradually accumulated in the sleeping chambers of the Adventurer's Guild.

Due to that it became harder and harder to leave the Adventurer's Guild.

"Well I might just have been putting too much thought into it."

I murmured as I recalled the past one week. I headed towards the dining hall as usual after completing my 「Heal」, 「Meditation」, 「Magic Power Manipulation」and 「Magic Power Control」training.

"Oh kid. You are early today."

Instructor Broad was already there when I arrived at the dining hall.

"Good morning. Instructor Broad you are early as well. Oh Grulga-san. Breakfast please."

"Understood. I'll increase your portions slightly from today onward."

Grulga-san disappeared into the kitchen after saying something ominous.

Instructor Broad slowly opened his mouth when it was just the two of us.

"Kid I will say this clearly at this stage. You have no god-given talent in martial arts."

Instructor Broad's serious eyes caught my attention.

"Yes. I vaguely noticed that already."

I nodded while snorting. I understood that from the body aches I had this one week.

I couldn't see through the attacks and couldn't even grasp the meaning of those words. That was why I knew that I had no talent in martial arts.

"But kid you have the talent of a hard worker."

Instructor Broad closed his eyes and murmured while nodding.

"Eh? Tha ... thank you very much."

I scratched my cheek while feeling a little embarrassed.

"As long as you put in the effort and do not give up. If we continue like this you should be able to at least defend yourself."

He told me as he opened his eyes again and stared at me.

"I'll be in your care until then."

"Alright. Once you are done with your meal, we will start earnestly building up your physical strength and add in weapon usage from today onward.

Along with those words, I felt the shining at the back of the instructor's eyes just like before."

I thought to myself at this moment.

[I might die.]

I seriously thought so.

At this moment, Grulga-san came over carrying the dishes. However, the volume of food increased by 1.2 times and for some reason Object X increased by 1.5 times as compared to yesterday. I was depressed from the start.

"Hurry up, eat and drink up so that we can start training."

I had no choice but to hastily eat my meal but when I drank Object X all the food threatened to come back out.

But feeling the intimidation from Grulga-san, I somehow managed to head towards the training ground. Does everybody in this guild have such astoundingly intimidating aura? I thought to myself as I walked towards my training.

"Okay from today onwards for an hour after meals we will learn this 「Throwing」 skill."

After being told so upon entering the training field, a stone similar to ones lying along the ground was passed to me.

"Erm, 「Throwing」skill as in I will throw this stone?"

"That's it. First we will start with a stone, then move on to daggers and finally short spears."

The training stone was rounded, quite light and easy to hold.

"Are there any points I should keep in mind?"

"At first concentrate on hitting the target. Once you get used to that, think about the distance and power before we continue to daggers and short spears. This skill is meant for a healer like you to restrain an approaching enemy. Keep in mind that this is not intended to defeat the opponent."

So it's for such a thing. Convinced, I nodded while giving my reply.

"Yes."

Thus began the days I travelled back and forth between the sleeping chambers, dining hall and training field.

As a result, I gradually began to be recognized by the adventurers as the Adventurer Guild's healer. After a month it reached until the stage where I was mistaken for an Adventurer Guild's staff.

"Good. For the time being I've worked hard for a month. With this I can pay for this year's healer donation."

The next day after completing training for one month. While I was having breakfast together with Instructor Broad he passed me 12 silver coins.

"Eh? This money is?"

"Well you continued to cast 「Heal」 on so many adventurers daily. This is a reward from the Adventurer's Guild."

"But wasn't that included in the request fee?"

I want to accept their good intentions but sometimes it's just a superficial intention. Therefore it's better to ask first.

"Accept it. But kid you are still a fledgling in 「Taijutsu」. So training continues today as well."

Instructor Broad grinned. I have a slightly bad premonition but I decided to accept it.

"Understood. Then after breakfast I'll go to the Healer's Guild for a bit."

"Okay."

I went to the Healer's Guild with the silver coins I just received to pay for the tax donation.

The town of Meratoni that I had not visited after such a long time had not changed at all.

"Nothing has changed huh. Eh, but I've only arrived at this world for a little over a month so it should be more of a problem if something changed? I wonder when would I be able to afford the time to look around the town?"

While murmuring to myself, I entered the Healer's Guild.

"Welcome to St Schull's church, Healer's Guild, Meratoni branch."

As soon as I entered, a female voice called out to me.

"Hello."

I headed towards the counter after greeting her. It seems like both Krull-san and Monica-san are not around.

"Excuse me. I would like to make the payment for the tax donation."

I told the lady behind the counter.

"Thank you very much. If you wish to do so, could you please take out your Healer's Guild card?"

"Yes."

I handed over my card.

"Healer rank G Luciel-sama. The tax donation is 1 silver coin for 1 month."

"Do you mind if I pay the remaining 11 silver coins for the rest of the year in advance?"

"Yes. However for the remaining year, or 11 months to be exact, in the case where you get promoted you will need to pay for the tax donation separately. Are you okay with that?"

"Yes. It would not be so easy to promote anyway."

Ah speaking of that. Was it told to me Holy magic can only be promoted by training in it? Did I receive a detailed explanation regarding that? ... Well for the time being I'll continue with my current life so I can ask about it next time.

"Here is your card."

She said to me politely.

As I was on my way back to the Adventurer's Guild, I thought to myself that the Healer's Guild feels just like a government office

from my previous life. When I just came here, I couldn't afford the time to feel that way but now I could appreciate it.

There's 360 days and 12 months in a year. 1 week consists of Light, Fire, Water, Wind, Earth, Darkness 6 days in total with 5 weeks in a month resulting in 30 days a month. Magical watches similar to watches on earth are sold as well.

Even though I don't really have time to spare now as well but at least it is better compared to then. I hurried on to the Adventurer's Guild.

"I'm back."

Instructor Broad was waiting for me for some reason when I entered the Adventurer's Guild.

"Eh? Were you intentionally waiting for me?"

The rabbit beastwoman Nanaera-san, human race receptionist Mirina-san and similarly human race receptionist Melneru-san giggled at the back after hearing my question.

"It ... It's just a coincidence. Well let's go train."

For some reason the morning training was a little harder than before.

After lunch, Instructor Broad retrieved a spell book from his cloth bag. A list of lower tier Holy magic was written on the cover. He then placed it on the table.

"Now that you have properly returned to the Adventurer's Guild, you should try to be useful."

"Am I an infant? Haa~ this is?"

"Only a healer who knows 「Heal」and 「Cure」for poison affliction can be considered as a fledgling. Kid you can only use 「Heal」right? Study this spell book well."

He turned away and faced another direction. A tsundere? Grulgasan was laughing but I knew my afternoon training would be a lot more difficult if I did so as well, so I responded.

"This is nice. Thank you very much. I will work hard from now on."

I declared.

"Okay."

Instructor Broad replied.

"Kukuku. If that's the case then drink this and go train."

Grulga-san placed the Object X on the table and immediately disappeared into the kitchen due to the intense odor.

"Hurry up and drink it."

"Instructor Broad, isn't it great that you don't have to drink this."

I said with a bit of sarcasm.

"It's because I do not need it. I will go on ahead."

Instructor Broad said so and went towards the training field.

I sighed and endured drinking the object X before chasing after Instructor Broad.

Chapter 005: Slight Changes From Object X

Adventurer's Guild | Healer

Luciel

Task: Casts healing magic on adventurers for free

Hobbies: Training and mock battles.

Personality: Mild-mannered, hard worker, masochist, taste disorder, hikikomori.

This was the impression of me from the adventurers after I had stayed in the Adventurer's Guild for three months.

A healer staff whose job was to apply 「Heal」 and 「Cure」 (which I had just memorized).

I thought of this as an trade-off for the training request I made so I had no problem with it.

Conversely, it had become a favourable workplace with three meals and a place to sleep provided, with even clothes received in the form of presents.

Furthermore, it can't be helped that my hobbies were misunderstood to be training and mock battles.

Not only had the physical strength building and mock battles become a daily routine, the training menu was also constructed by Instructor Broad so there's no helping it.

As for being described as mild-mannered, I would like to see it if you can be overbearing towards somebody who has a better physique and is clearly stronger than you.

However, even when it became a quibble when I refused to do something I didn't want to do, there were no adventurers who would attack me within the guild premises because I had been misunderstood as a guild staff.

Well because I have healed many adventurers, people will stand up for me if others tried to pick a fight with me.

As for being called a hard worker, it was apparently because I trained every day. However it seemed that walking outside would be dangerous because all the adventurers I saw strode about in full equipment (delusion) so I only stayed within the guild. (TL: The author literally wrote (delusion/paranoia) behind that sentence which meant that Luciel was just paranoid and the streets are not as dangerous as he makes it out to be.)

"Though 'masochist' and 'taste disorder' is due to the Object X that Grulga-san gives to me after each meal."

"I bet. But don't you properly drink that every time? To continue drinking that every time, you do know the characteristics of that Object X right?"

"Ugh, that's right. What is that really?"

"I have no idea. But it has always been available in the Adventurer's Guild since a long time ago."

"I have been forced to drink such a thing?"

"Yup. Well a person who couldn't drink that would have been kicked out on the spot. But normally wouldn't you not drink it if you didn't know the effects of it."

"By the way, how much of that is being stored in the guild?"

"Its limitless. I heard that a sage made a magic tool long ago. That Object X comes out when magical power is inserted into the magic tool."

"Does it benefit the guild or Grulga-san in any way if I continue drinking that?"

"Yes it does. But how it benefits us is a secret."

Grulga-san grinned as he disappeared into the kitchen.

"That makes me super curious, Grulga-san."

Official name Object X.

This seriously disgusting drink's effect was really abnormal.

If you could stomach it, it was a quite a cheat item if you continued drinking it.

Because you wouldn't know it if you didn't possess the 「Appraisal」 skill, nobody drank this Object X apart from me for this past three months.

In truth at the end of the first day of training, with the exception of 「Charm」, every abnormal resistance proficiencies, status parameters and skill proficiencies were rising.

The next morning, I suspected that it had something to do with Object X. Upon drinking Object X again, my proficiencies slightly increased across the board just like the previous day.

I felt that this was something that should be drunk, so I made sure to continue drinking it properly after every meal from then on.

"Even so isn't it terrible to call me a masochist and say that I have taste disorder just because of that?"

I brought up the topic again to Grulga-san.

"Nope. You are a masochist because you can stomach it. Moreover, I have seen plenty of people. Only people who have that kind of masochistic attribute could continue the kind of 「Taijutsu」

training you do."

"No no no, I'm telling you I am a normal person."

"You are still young so it can't be helped that you are embarrassed."

For some reason he pats my shoulder gently.

"Haa~. I'll go train today as well."

"Okay. Work hard. Before that, drink this."

I did my best to finish the mug of object X and went towards the training field.

After three months, my 「Taijutsu」 skill level had finally reached 「Taijutsu II」 and my 「Holy」 magic level had reached 「Holy III」 and would become 「Holy IV」 soon.

I did not even think that there were skill levels for magic but this increase seemed to be the effect of casting 「Heal」 on others day and night.

It seemed like proficiency increases faster by actually casting the spell instead of relying on image training.

As for 「Taijutsu」, even after going through three months of training it's level stopped at 「Taijutsu II」. Maybe it was due to the nature of the training.

However, I did not give up because I found that the proficiency was steadily rising little by little.

While borrowing the guild's sleeping chambers, I continued polishing my 「Taijutsu」 and 「Holy」 magic. For some reason my bed was swapped with a better one from the second month onwards. I ignored the pitying eyes pointed towards me when I went to thank them for the bed.

For the past three months, there wasn't any major changes except for my adventurer's rank which rose to F.

On the day I became a F rank, I received a proposal from Instructor Broad.

"On my off days, as long as you fulfil the training quota you are free to do whatever you want. Well if you are free, you can help to dismantle the monsters in the Adventurer's Guild."

"Eh? Monster corpses are carried into the guild? They are even dismantled?"

"Yes. Haven't you always been eating large amounts of monster meat? That was all dismantled within the guild."

"Oh? That was from monsters?"

I was really surprised that such delicious meat came from monsters.

"You only found out now?"

"But I've never seen a monster corpse since coming to the Adventurer's Guild? I didn't see any adventurer's carrying them as well?"

"Hey hey. There's something called a magic bag. Really, what are you talking about."

Instructor Broad was completely amazed by me.

"Magic bag as in the bag that can put items larger than the size of the bag inside it and not feel the weight at all? Also, does time stop within the bag so that anything inside is preserved?"

"There's no way that time can be stopped right. Well, it's a great item that can keep items larger than its size."

The only fantasy-like element I've encountered in this world until now was magic so my heart was dancing.

"Is it expensive after all?"

"Yeah. At least 3 gold coins. That's because the returns you get from having it is huge."

I see. I guess mid-level adventurers would have it. Newcomers who grew up in wealthy families would most likely have it too.

"Please recommend me a shop someday."

"No problem. While I'm at it, I'll arrange to let you join in dismantling the monsters."

"Thank you."

"Okay. Let's end the chat here. Today your opponent is this large wooden sword I custom-made."

"... Erm, please hold back more than usual. No, please hold back as much as possible."

"That's so weak-spirited."

"I think my bones will easily fracture if I get hit by such a large wooden sword."

"Well I will go easy on you but I won't stay my hand. Try not to get fractures. Let's start!"

And so the days I got beaten up continued even though I didn't break any bones.

Three days later.

"Is it fine if I call you Luciel-kun? It's fine right? I'm Garba."

What awaited me at the dismantling work room was a dog beastman with good physique and a handsome face.

I thought that if I sharpened a certain someone, he would closely resemble Garba-san.

"Nice to meet you, I'm Luciel. Thank you for having me today."

"Nice to meet you. It's okay for you to speak to me like how you speak to my brother."

"Oh as I thought?"

"Yup. Grulga is my younger brother."

"You resemble each other a lot." I said while smiling.

"Glad to hear that."

It looked like the two brothers were at good terms with each

other.

"Let us begin then. We'll begin dismantling the monsters now. However depending on the monsters, some remain rigid even after death while others have poison so just watch for now."

A wild boar came out after he stuck his hand into the bag.

But ... "Are ... are monsters usually this large?"

"Eh? Ah. I guess this is around the usual size?"

I stared as Garba-san used a single hand to place the mini car-sized boar on to the table with a 『Don!』sound.

"Well then I will begin now."

I declare that this person is also a superman? a superbeastman?

Thus the skin was stripped off, viscera were scrapped out and the meat was cut into blocks and then placed into a different magic bag.

"After dismantling the monster, these are taken to the guild kitchen or butcher shop in the city for wholesale and the money is used to pay for the guild's operation costs."

"I see. But I feel like I am in the way by being here."

"It's okay. Even though you would gain experience in dismantling monsters here, Broad-san gave you to me to train your eye to find monster's weak points and areas where attacks can easily pass through."

"What do you mean?"

"It is to increase your survival rate even if just by a little when you eventually go on an adventure. Recently there are too little hard working newcomers who diligently prepare in advance just like you."

"For my case it is because I don't want to die though."

"That's usually the case for adventurers. There aren't too many people with strong heroic intentions nowadays."

Garba-san shook his head regretfully. I also dismantled a few small horn rabbits while talking with Garba-san.

"If you don't have any plans, do come by next week as well."

Thus dismantling work was added into my schedule.

For dinner that day, dishes were made from the horn rabbit I dismantled.

I once again realized that I should be a little more grateful for the meals. I prayed and conveyed my thanks for the meal before starting.

It seemed like Instructor Broad was quite busy recently as he goes somewhere every three days.

[Since that's the case I'll go to Garba-san's place then]. Just as I had that in mind, Nanaera-san, Mirina-san and Melneru-san, the three receptionist that I hadn't had much interactions with, called out to me.

"Luciel-kun, because your knowledge is quite skewed, Broad-san asked us to look into it. That's why we are going to teach you."

The three of them blocked off the road and strangely let off an intimidating aura.

Since it would be scary if I rejected them, I accepted their offer to study today.

However I had one concern.

These three girls were considerably beautiful and had good personalities so I might get on the wrong side of adventurers by having them teach me.

I was so worried that I only had that in my mind. But my worry was completely unwarranted.

I later learned that I had already been recognized as a training fanatic and was deemed as an existence that's harmless to both man and beast.

In addition, because I've healed the wounds of countless adventurers at no charge for the past three months, I was held in reasonably high regard among the adventurers.

Due to that, I wasn't as anxious as I was taught by the three of them.

"You don't have to look so stiff, Luciel-kun."

Nanaera-san smiled from the front.

"That's right. It'll be easy because you are literate."

Mirina-san smiled on my right.

"Then let's start."

Said Melneru sitting on my left with a mischievous smile.

That was how the three of them arranged themselves. It was the

first time I saw a hard cover book instead of a booklet since coming to this world. But that doesn't mean that I didn't mind the situation.

"Erm everyone, that is a bit too close. And also how about your work? And what is with that pile of study materials?"

"I have a list of monster subjugations with illustrations and a list of recommended weapons and armours made from monster parts."

"I have the completed volumes on wild grass, mushrooms and fruits as well as a book on beginner-level pharmaceutical knowledge."

"I have the local area's specialty. It is the guide book that people buy as a souvenir when visiting this land."

Nanaera-san, Mirina-san and Melneru-san gave me an explanation on the study materials they brought respectively.

"Do I really need all of these?"

""Of course""

"Un...understood. So who should I start learning from?"

"It's my turn today."

Nanaera-san raised her hand while the other two went back to the reception counter while smiling.

Thus I had obtained a good opportunity to learn the current common sense in this world.

Side Story 1: The Appearance Of A Natural Healer In The Adventurer's Guild

That guy, he just suddenly appear in Meratoni brach adventurer guild, in the normal day just before noon.

「Guild master, Can I take some of your time?」

The one who currently manning the receptionist desk is Nanaera, she suddenly called me who were training in the basement training hall.

There are rare case that made Nanaera to leave her spot, so I decide to stop training and approach Nanaera.

My instinct smell troubles, but I'm interested by it since I've gotten tired of my daily life that had no stimulation lately.

「I told you many times, It's not Guild master, it's Broad. So what's the matter?」

The word is still too early for me who are in the forties and because it smells like an old man, I don't like this Guild_Master.

「I'm sorry. Then Broad-san Right now, a boy around the age of 15 year old with an occupation of a healer, made a proposal in exchange for healing he wanted to receive combat training」

Healer..... It's one of the jobs that I hate. Using the power received from the god to heal someone is a good thing, but those moneygrubbers often demand large amounts of money.

「.....Did that guy go to register as an adventurer?」

This is the important part. Because it's weird for a healer to join an adventurer guild.

「Yes」

「What are this guy's combat skills?」

「It's Taijutsu level 1」

「His objective?」

Oioi, this is way too suspicious. A normal healer would've employed a bodyguard.

I haven't heard about it. Although.....」

「Stop being weird and holding back. If you want to say something then say it properly」

「I think he is different from the usual healer. He looked at me and didn't say anything, he also didn't show any indication of

being disgusted」

「Hee. I see. U~n. It would be good if he is not a weird guy」

In this world, in regards to being able to use the light and divine attribute magic, it said only human race can use it, but that is lies. But for a beastmen their magic power is scarce, it's because for them there are only few things that they think that magic are applicable to.

Well spirit magic have healing magic as well so it's not like healing magic is the sole privilege of humans.

「But isn't he a weird/eccentric person precisely because he wants to become an adventurer?」

As for me, I get it. I just keep thinking about it inside my mind and begin to walk towards the reception desk.

「Ah, Absolutely never called me guild master you hear me!?!」

I didn't forgot to put a warning at Nanaera.

As I proceed towards the reception desk, what I saw in front of the counter is a boy with slender and delicate features, also he is quite a young lad.

He said he is 15 years old.

Just what exactly his objective are?

「Are you the fledgling that can use healing magic?」

I tried to intimidated him a little bit. If you do things this way, his real nature should come out.

「Yes. I was allowed to register as an adventurer just now. My name is Luciel. I wish to improve both martial arts and healing magic. I consulted the receptionist for any requests to earn some money as well. 」

Fumu. He is indeed scared, but he still looked at me without fazed, those eyes already telling me that he is not lying.

「Hou. How rare in spite being a healer. My name is Broad. It seems like you already have the 「Taijutsu 」 skill? Why would a healer want more fighting capabilities?」

A moneygrubbing healer actually want to learn a combat skill? What exactly is his true motive?

「Because I am useless in actual combat. I have not mentally prepared myself and if I get attacked by a common weak monster during my travels I will likely die. I strive to prevent that from happening and I wish to at least improve until the stage where I am capable of defending myself.」

Ah, I understand him now. This guy is the type that learn from his weakness. Moreover, he is the rare kind of healer that has not stained with money.

Maybe he naturally has small attachment towards money.

「That is fine. Because you are H rank, we will hire you as a healing personnel for the arena. The pay is 1 silver for 1 hour. The working hours and employment period is up to you. When would you like to start training?」

So as to not let go of this natural healer, I decided to accept his request. (TLN: 天然 = Natural, spontaneous, airhead.)

「If that is the case then I will start three days later」

After that, the kid who greeted Nanaera lowered his head and went out of the guild.

「Never knew that there would be such a polite healer」

Those words of Nanaera already tell everything of the healers. They are all moneygrubbing and arrogant. But here in Meratoni, it exist the largest clinic.

「That I actually intimidate a youngster like that, I really started to grow old. Oi, Nanaera. When that airhead guy comes back, I'll be his opponent. Also since that guy is going to stay here, clean up the nap room so he can use it. Ah, that's right. Tell the adventurers

if they dare to pick a fight with that kid there will be penalty」

Hopefully, I just pray that that guy has willpower.

Oh, since that youngster is an airhead, I should have Grulga prepare some of that disgusting shit.

If he drink that, even if he is a healer he should be able to become stronger even just a little bit.

And three days has finally passed. I was informed by the staff that the youngster finally came.

「Sure is wide」 what the youngster murmured, seriously, this guy doesn't notice me at all.

This feel like it's going to be hard. Or could it be rather than the problem with martial arts it's that he doesn't have any wariness?

「It sure is. Fledgling? Let us begin immediately. I will begin from the basics so don't run away okay」

Even while threatened he still give a nod, being brave is quite good.

While thinking those things, I decided to train this airhead youngster.

Due to his job he doesn't have any stamina at all, so it was started with building up stamina first.

Doing this simple training and watching his desperate figure gave me a good feeling, the thing that make me worries is how long he can keep doing this.

The next morning, I asked Grulga to take it out and order the youngster to drink it.

So smelly. Even from this distance the smell is reaching. Even after being diluted it still this smelly.

Are you kidding me?! This guy drink that in ONE go.

Even Grulga is surprised.

I haven't seen a guy that willing to drink it in the past 10 years.

Could this guy actually a raw unpolished gem?

While thinking that, the training is started.

I still couldn't believe at what I'm hearing.

「While training under Instructor Broad certainly is tough, since I do not feel any muscle ache could you further increase the

training?」

It's because he made that kind of suggestion.

「Hou. For a healer say that, I didn't think that you would have such fortitude」

Even though he just a slender/delicate-looking guy, is he the type that will show his value the more he is beaten and driven into a corner?

And ever since that day, the boy training is done until his limit until he is one step away from broken.

What would happen if I keep train him this way?

And at that time I thought. It's totally a waste. That this kind of raw gem appear when I am already so old.

I ascertain his limit so he doesn't break, and guide him.

「Broad, How is Luciel?」

Grulga who usually didn't show any interest towards anyone, for the youngster, he actually show interest towards him.

Well, probably he is interested since he drink that.

「To be honest, he is not a genius, but not exactly ordinary either」
It's due to him being able to adapt at his surroundings. It's some kind of talent to be able to do that much without complaining at all」

「Any contact from the healer guild?」

「None. It's mostly due to his G rank」

「Is that so. Then how about giving him a spellbook?」

「... Let's do that」

That reminds me, that guy can only use heal.

The book seems to had detoxification magic that he can learned. I should just do that.

「Also, before his guild credential expired, pay him the money first 」

Really, even if he is my brother he is so reliable.

「That guy, will he come back?」

「Up to the person himself」

「That's true」

When the youngster went to the healer guild and returned here, it made me really happy.

「Now then, I should get back to train him in the earnest」

I started to decide on how to train Luciel for the better, with a new schedule the days will no longer be as boring and as a thanks for that I'll train him.

Chapter 006: Growth And Leaving The Nest

Day by day I desperately worked hard to stay alive.

Around the time I had been under the care of the Adventurer's Guild for close to half a year, I finally succeeded in leaving the Adventurer's Guild to buy brand-new underwear and clothes for myself.

"I wonder why. Even though it's natural, I feel very happy."

"Thank you for your patronage."

For some reason the store clerk looked at me with pitying eyes but I had a large grin when I returned to the Adventurer's Guild and went straight to the sleeping chambers which I had taken as my own.

On the way to my room, for some reason the adventurers looked at me with eyes full of pity while the guild staffs watched me with warm eyes which concerned me, but it had been a long time since I went shopping so my tension was rising and I ignored them.

In front of the sleeping chambers, familiar faces that I had treated approached me.

"Can I help you? Do you need healing?"

"If anything comes up you can consult me."

Warrior-san said to me.

"If you need anything just let me know okay."

The female adventurer looked at me with friendly eyes like seeing a little brother.

... Was this? I didn't go out to buy items for half a year so ... they deemed that I was a pitiful child who can't even do his own shopping?

I entered the sleeping chambers while thinking about that.

"I wonder if they believed that I can't survive alone because not only have I taken this sleeping chamber for myself, I also have no common sense other than fighting and healing."

Day by day my proficiency increased little by little. In this world proficiency does not degenerate.

No, I most likely only deduced it was so because until now my proficiency had never decreased.

I had thought plenty of times what if I had 「Appraisal」 when I was still on Earth.

"Well even if I could use 「Appraisal」 on Earth, my previous life most likely wouldn't had changed dramatically."

While murmuring, I drank Object X and moved towards the training field.

"Alright. 「Taijutsu」 skill has become 「Taijutsu III」."

Yes. My 「Taijutsu」 skill had finally became 「Taijutsu III」. That was the standard for a F rank adventurer and was said to signify technical capabilities capable of fighting against multiple goblins and winning. In this world, you could obtain the skill even if you had not selected the required profession if you seriously trained for a year in the training hall. To the point that it would not be surprising if you obtained the skill by the time you became an adult. However, that assumed it was the technical capabilities of a common fledgling adventurer. But, there's a large difference in status between the vanguard positions and rearguard positions like a healer. Because status are hard to raise, there's a considerable probability of losing when fighting. This cannot be helped. I told myself so.

"This is all thanks to Instructor Broad."

"No need to flatter me. Kid, no, Luciel. It was because you worked hard towards your goal."

"Thank you."

"Umu. However from now on it will be harder and harder to increase the skill level."

I nodded.

"Luciel you came to the Adventurer's Guild to learn to survive right."

"Yes."

"Umu. From today onwards I will add 「Footwork」 training. "

"What is that?"

"It is the art of erasing the sound of your footsteps, it allows you to slide and allows you to not feel tired when keeping a low profile while walking."

"Understood."

"When you succeed in moving as above, even if you don't obtain the skill, you can forge the lower half of your body."

"Yes."

Thus 「Footwork」 training started.

"I can hear your footsteps, that's just sliding your feet, your posture is high. If it's like that you'd get ambushed by a wild boar."

By that mini car? I absolutely can't handle that. I devoted myself to training.

Wake up → Magic training → Breakfast and Object X → Throwing training → Taijutsu mock battle → Lunch and Object X → Throwing training → Taijutsu training → Dinner and Object X → Magic training.

To be precise, I casted 「Heal」 on adventurers at least 10 times a day. If there were severe injuries or a large number of injured people, it could reach above 50 times in a day.

I had to think about where to fit 「Footwork」 training in and decided to do independent training during the morning and at night for an hour each.

And for some reason, Instructor Broad began to increase the training time for 「Footwork」 at the expense of combat training.

"Lately, aren't there strangely many 「Footwork」 training?"

I raised my question.

"It is because what you need the most right now is 「Footwork」. Understood? Then let's start."

There wasn't any reason nor explanations.

Perhaps because my 「Taijutsu」 level went up, he thought that it was about time I wanted to go out and test my power.

Normally, that would be understandable. However, I am neither a dreaming child nor a reckless youth. Well I did want to promote my guild rank at all cost but as I wasn't even convinced of my own strength, I would not do so.

Just like that, I lived a life without romance in an extremely narrow activity area to the point of almost forgetting the city's name. A year had quickly gone by since I came to the city of Meratoni.

[Status open]

Name: Luciel

Job: Healer III

Age: 16

LV: 1

HP: 320

MP: 100

ST: 120

STR: 34

VIT: 36

DEX: 35

AGI: 32

SP: 0

INT: 42

MGI: 50

RMG: 48

Magic Aptitude: Holy

【Skill】

「Appraisal—」 「Great luck—」 「Taijutsu IV」 「Magic Power Control IV」 「Magic Power Manipulation IV」 「Holy Magic V」 「Meditation IV」 「Concentration IV」 「HP Recovery II」 「MP Recovery IV」 「Stamina Recovery IV」 「Throwing III」 「Dismantling II」 「Danger Perception II」 「Footwork II」

「HP Increased Rate of Growth II」 「MP Increased Rate of Growth II」 「ST Increased Rate of Growth II」 「STR Increased Rate of Growth II」 「VIT Increased Rate of Growth II」 「DEX Increased Rate of Growth II」 「AGI Increased Rate of Growth II」 「INT Increased Rate of Growth II」 「MGI Increased Rate of Growth II」 「RMG Increased Rate of Growth II」

「Poison Resistance II」 「Paralysis Resistance II」 「Petrification Resistance II」 「Sleep Resistance II」 「Charm Resistance I」 「Curse Resistance II」 「Weakness Resistance II」 「Seal Resistance II」 「Disease Resistance II」

【Title】

「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10)

「God of Destiny's blessing」 (Increased SP acquisition)

"After one whole year, the result of virtually investing all my effort is this ... Because there's nothing to compare against, I have no idea if it is amazing or not."

"Why are you mumbling on your own?"

"Oh, good morning Instructor Broad. Well, today marks the day I have passed one year since coming to this town but I do not know if I have grown."

"Rest assured. You are growing up properly."

"Is that so? Until now there are times I still can't see Instructor Broad's attack, my attacks can't land decently and as for magic I can only cast 「Heal」 and 「Cure」."

"Well there is a difference in combat experience and status between you and me. The difference is like how a decent hit from Luciel is about similar to receiving a jolt in my sleep."

"I guess that's how it is."

Even in a game when a level 1 fights a mid ranked monster, I would die as soon as I damage it.

"Man, show some motivation."

I was hit on the back with a 『Ba~n』.

"That hurts. Well although it has only been a year, I think that I can face myself properly with all the training achieved. It is all thanks to Instructor Broad. Even if I encounter a monster now, I would be able to escape."

"No, that is where you should say you would be able to defeat it. Isn't that right. But you did well for not running away this one whole year."

"I thought of running away many times. But because this was something I determined that I needed to survive."

And because there wasn't any way to escape.

"Hey Luciel, why don't you just join the Adventurer's Guild for work."

"No ~ This is quite a coarse world so I would like to make some money, just a bit, and also memorize some new magic."

"Well I guess that is normal."

"Last year my donation for the Healer's Guild was paid by, not the Adventurer's Guild, but thanks to Instructor Broad. If I don't start saving money this will gradually come back to haunt me."

"Is that so. However, do consider becoming a guild staff."

"Yes. Well I am based in this city so I will visit to ask for training again. Oh, if you ever need a healer please ask me. I'll accept it for a cheap price."

I exchanged a firm handshake with Instructor Broad, thanked everyone who helped me and left with a smile.

Thus life in the Adventurer's Guild had come to an end.

I looked up at the sky. "Okay. Today's a sunny day too." I said as I started walking towards the Healer's Guild.

The me at this time had no way of knowing that I would be returning to the Adventurer's Guild very soon.

Chapter 007: U-Turn

"Even though my job is a healer, I wonder why I feel more at home at the Adventurer's Guild."

After leaving the Adventurer's Guild, I quickly arrived at the Healer's Guild.

I opened the door but there wasn't anybody by the door nor was there a voice calling out "Welcome!" as before.

Well it doesn't necessarily mean that I am troubled by this. I walked towards the counter and called out to the receptionist.

"Excuse me. I would like to update my healer rank. Eh Krull-san? Long time no see."

"Oh you are the one who registered one year ago. Luciel-kun right? How have you been? Eh, you, hasn't your physique somehow got better."

"Yes. I've trained a little. Well thanks to that I am doing fine."

I flexed my biceps.

"I see. Which clinic are you working at right now?"

"Erm, I'm not working in any clinic."

"EH!? Don't tell me you didn't go to a clinic since then?"

"Yes. While training in the Adventurer's Guild, I lived off the requests from the Adventurer's Guild."

"So that's how it was. Eh, then wasn't it meaningless to become a healer."

"Hahaha. If there are people who will protect me for just a little bit of money then it will be fine but the world is not so kind. My motto is to not die. For that reason I desperately honed my self defense skills for a year."

"Ha~ you really are a weird person. Well that's fine. I can check your Holy magic skill level when I update your card. The level determines what class your rank will be raised to."

"Thanks for your help."

"Once you pay the donation for your rank up, we will pass you the spell books. Please take out your card."

"Yes."

I obediently passed the card.

"Well then I'll check if Luciel-kun properly put in effort ... ?! Wa

... Wait a minute Luciel-kun, what happened to you?"

"Eh? Is there a problem?"

"There's a huge problem. What kind of reckless training did you do? No, explain to me what kind of lifestyle have you been living."

Eh? Scary! Somehow Krull-san was giving off a terribly threatening air.

"Krull-san you are making a scary face. It ruins your beautiful face. I'll talk so please calm down."

『Kohon』 She coughed and asked "Go ahead?" while staring at me with intimidating eyes.

"Well after I memorized 「Heal」 in this branch ... "

Like that, I recounted my one year's worth of history.

After I finished recounting everything, Krull-san asked me with a voice void of intonation.

"Luciel-kun are you a hentai?"

"Isn't that a bit harsh? I just didn't want to die and also that was such a perfect environment made purely for a healer to polish his

Holy magic."

"But that wasn't a clinic. There, you might start off at the bottom of the pile but you'll have a chance to build your network of contacts."

"That is true. But what a healer needs most is the number of Heals right? So nobody would be able to become full-fledged quickly. In addition, I feel that it is wrong to heal just for the sake of money and to receive the treatment fee only after the patient is satisfied. For this one year I wanted strength for self defense because this can't be obtained with money."

"... That is right. I'm sorry."

"Ah I'm sorry for acting all high and mighty. Also just in case, I am neither a masochist nor a pervert(hentai). I only did not want to die."

I laughed.

"Luciel-kun has such high aspirations. I was just surprised that the child Lumina-sama brought over became so respectable."

She smiled wryly.

So she meant that she always thought that the child Lumina-san recommended was a strange child?

It was great that I was discovered by Lumina-san but I became ... a victim? She deemed that I was a strange child since a year ago?

"Now that we've mentioned it, I was not able to meet Lumina-sama even once after that?"

"Oh, that is because Lumina-sama is no longer in this city. She had long since returned to the church headquarters in the Holy City."

"The Holy City's church headquarters? Is Lumina-sama an elite?"

"Yes. That why for the time being, if you don't work hard you won't be able to meet her. Well then, I can raise you up until C rank but where would you like to be raised until?"

"Before that, could I just purchase the spell books only?"

"You could buy them. However there's a catch. When you purchase a spell book with a higher rank than your own, the price is normally set to about 10 times the usual price. That is why it is not recommended to do so. It is usually impossible because the costly spell books are normally more than 10 times the price of donations"

"Then, I would like to know the types of spell books I can buy for each rank."

"F rank is poison and recovery of abnormal conditions like paralysis and sleep, E rank is middle-ranked healing magic, D rank is barrier magic and C rank is multiple simultaneous healing magic."

"I see. How much would it cost me to get the E,D and C rank spell books?"

"The total would be 1 gold and 24 silver coins but as you are a C rank healer it would be 90 silver coins."

"Wah, I totally don't have enough." 『Don~』 (TL: Sound of shock and disappointment)

"This is your salary. There's 1 gold and 31 silver coins inside."

The man who passed me the leather bag was Instructor Broad.

"Eh? Why is Instructor Broad here?"

"Ah. I forgot to pass you your remuneration. Oi miss. Dispatch this Luciel over to the Adventurer's Guild for a year for 1 gold coin. We will pay for this guy's salary."

"Erm, May I know who you are?"

"Ah my bad. I am Broad from the Adventurer's Guild. As long as you tell the guild master here that Broad said so then it will be

fine."

Krull-san looked at me with concerned eyes.

"Erm Krull-san, this person here is called Broad-san and he is my martial arts teacher. He is not a suspicious person and I am not being threatened so it is all right. Nevertheless what is a dispatch?"

"Luciel, it is an official request to send you to reside in the Adventurer's Guild."

"Well I have not been beaten up by Instructor yet so I think that it's fine."

"It is fine? Really?"

I was slightly happy that Krull-san asked worriedly in an undertone.

"It is fine. It's not like I am being threatened, and like I said earlier he is my martial arts teacher. I'll accept the dispatch."

"... Understood. Well then it is confirmed. Since your one year's worth of renewal fee has been paid for, work hard to save up until next year."

"Thank you for the advice."

The formal procedures for the Adventurer's Guild to lend me was made.

We then left the Healer's Guild.

I immediately commented to Instructor Broad after exiting the Healer's Guild.

"Instructor Broad, I'm really surprised."

"Thanks to the combat training with Luciel, my 「Taijutsu」 level became 「Taijutsu VIII」. While teaching you everything I know, I'll also let you learn about the guild's work. Oh, do properly learn Holy attribute magic."

Instructor Broad smiled with a smug expression.

I was teased a lot by everyone because I left the Adventurer's Guild and returned in less than an hour.

After that, I moved to my room.

"This completely belong to me now."

The 'Sleeping Chambers' tag was removed and replaced with a 'Healer Luciel's Room' tag.

The room that was filled with my personal belonging had completely became my private room.

The room had been tidied up, the desk, chair and bed was replaced with new ones and there even was a bookshelf.

The spell books I bought today were placed at the reception counter but I'll place them here instead.

"I look forward to another year."

I said to my room.

After I settled down from organizing the room, I postponed training to the afternoon and read the spell books I just bought.

Although there were many overlapping contents, I read for the first time that there was better efficiency in learning skills like 「Heal」 after the amount of MP rises, instead of consciously increasing magic power by magic boost skills or chant abridgement and chant termination skills.

However these books did not state the disadvantages. There was no description as to what happens after you've done so. In terms of real life experience, with regards to chants, with 「Chant Omission I」, the consumed MP was eight times more.

There wasn't any description with regards to this. Therefore, due to my low MP I did not raise the level of 「Chant Omission」.

Although I would like to study this more when I have greater amounts of MP...

In consideration of that, even though I have obtained new magic skills, I thought that I should first obtained the 「Reduced MP Consumption」 skill.

Of course, it would be useless if the skill cannot be triggered without increasing my 「Magic Power Manipulation」 and 「Magic Power Control」 skill levels. I aim to be able to use a lot of magic skills.

Although I felt impatient, I worked hard to be able to at least go on a journey.

Chapter 008: Welcome Party And Encroaching Darkness

I thought that my life would change slightly when I was dispatched to the Adventurer's Guild.

"... It's the same as before."

"Of course it's the same. That's because Luciel's job is just to heal. And you still want to do combat training right?"

"Of course. I must raise my survival rate by even just a little."

"If that's the case then hang in there for one year. If you do so then you can survive when you encounter a low level thief."

"I'll take up your offer."

"Then shall we head for dinner."

"Yes."

Instructor Broad and I moved towards the dining hall Grulga partitioned off.

"Our Adventurers Guild's healer has arrived."

I heard that announcement the moment I stepped into the dining hall and was greeted with applause.

"Eh?" Upon checking I found that they were the guild staffs who should be off-duty and my adventurer acquaintances.

"Why are you surprised. If you have been dispatched to our Adventurer's Guild then you are a temporary staff. Of course there would be a welcome party."

Instructor Broad said so with a hearty laugh.

"Have a sit." Grulga-san came out from the kitchen holding a mug filled to the brim with Object X in his hands.

"Erm, do I have to drink that after all?"

"Of course?"

"Understood." I received the mug and drank it all down in one gulp.

Within the exclamations of "Amazing~" or "As expected he's a masochist", there was "In addition to taste disorder, even his sense of smell is broken?"

That came from the fellow adventurers.

I wanted to refute that but I could not find my voice because I was experiencing the backlash from drinking that in one go.

"Oh yes. Luciel you are prohibited from drinking alcohol."

"What?" I endured the disgusting taste left in my mouth.

"Because this might be too strong such that you won't be able to wake up tomorrow?"

"No way~" I lamented the unfairness of not being able to drink alcohol in a welcome party.

[Oh, I had not drank any alcohol since coming to this world.] I recalled as I heard, "In exchange, you can ask for second servings for any of the dishes served as well as Object X."

"As expected, I can't take any more of that?"

"What, you can properly taste that it is bad?"

"If that's the case then why do you drink it?"

"He's a masochist after all." They whispered. Oi adventurer-sans? I can hear everything?

"Okay. Then Luciel would you please say something."

"Ah, yes. I'll be in your care for a year. As a temporary staff I will strive to increase the survival rate of all of you adventurers by even a little. Cheers!"

""""""Cheers~!!""""""

Thus my welcome party took place.

"Hey Luciel, I have something I'd like to ask." The B rank Bazzan-san who I helped out previously asked while looking like it was something hard to say.

"What is it?"

"Are you gay?"

"『Goho Goho』What are you asking all of the sudden!! I am extremely normal. I like girls like a normal guy." (TL: Goho = Sound of coughing/choking)

"Oh. I am relieved. It's because you are always with Instructor Broad and rarely interact with the beautiful receptionists."

"Ha~ Even though love is important, staying alive in this world is hard. This past year in order to raise my survival rate, I didn't have time for love."

"Huh~ That is too philosophical for such a young person like you. It is also important to do more exhilarating things when you are young."

"That is true. But, although I'm accustomed to it now, from where I lived nobody walked about carrying their weapons. For around half a year after coming to this city I was living in fear."

"Hahaha, you have the courage to drink that but are scared of the adventurers. You are really unbalanced."

"No no, I won't die by drinking that but if I got tangled up with an adventurer when I just came to the city, I could only image death in my future."

"I don't think there's anybody in this city who would pick a fight with you who advances towards Broad-san like a zombie. Well if anything happens leave it to me."

"Thank you very much."

"So Bazzan, is Luciel-kun gay?" The two who formed a party with Bazzan-san, Skyros-san and the man of few words Basra-san called out to him."

"Ha~ I like woman okay."

"Happiness escapes as well when you sigh you know."

"Whose fault is that."

"Hahaha. Then next time, we'll bring you out to play at night."

"There's that kind of shop in this city?"

"Oo~ you took the bait. Yes there are. Well for Luciel-kun, you stand out so if you don't disguise yourself, rumors would likely spread in no time."

"... Please let me reconsider it after all."

As they saw my depressed expression, the three of them roared with laughter and ordered some ale.

Thus my welcome party lasted until late at night.

The next morning when I woke up, I tried chanting the magic I just memorized.

Middle-ranked healing magic 「Middle Heal」 healed about three times the amount of 「Heal」 while only consuming 1.5 times the MP.

Beginner-ranked whole area recovery magic 「Area Heal」 healed the same as a regular 「Heal」 in a radius of 2 meters around me. My current regular 「Heal」 effects have increased and the MP

consumption for 「Area Heal」 was three times that of 「Heal」.

Beginner-ranked barrier magic 「Attack Barrier」 reduced the damage of physical attacks while 「Magic Barrier」 reduced the damage of magic attacks. Both consumed 10 MP each.

Middle-ranked barrier magic 「Area Barrier」 deployed a 「Attack Barrier」 and 「Magic Barrier」 to people within a 2 meter radius from me and was not capable of blocking out monsters.

"Even so doing this in the morning is ridiculously harsh. Area Barrier cost 30 MP. Is there a better way to use this?"

While meditating, I often thought about methods of using magic."

When Luciel was studying his magic, a shouting voice sounded from within a clinic in Meratoni.

"You bastard, what the heck do you mean by this? Why are both the income and slave numbers half of previous years!!"

A middle-aged man dressed in a white robe with a protruding belly wearing jewelry from top to bottom ranted in anger.

"I apologize. But master, the healer in the Adventurer's Guild that I mentioned earlier is related to this matter."

One man stepped out on behalf of the others and answered while lowering his head.

"Then why were there no measures taken. all of you incompetent people." 『Ga~n』 『Karan Karan』

An expensive-looking decorated cup was thrown towards the man.

The man did not avoid as the cup hit his forehead which began to flow with blood.

The man began to speak slowly.

"It's an excuse but the targeted healer only left the Adventurer's Guild 4 times in a year. I could not even get into contact."

"If that's the case then won't it be fine if you went directly to the Adventurer's Guild."

"... He has mock battles with the Adventurer Guild's guild master day and night. In addition when he is sleeping, high rank adventurers were on standby in front of his room so we couldn't move our hand."

"Damn it. Both that Adventurer's Guild and that healer are so damn annoying. Why did such a person appear. Something must be done as soon as possible. Oi! Convene the people under the Healer's Guild."

"Yes. " The man left the room.

Thus people who deemed that Adventurer Guild's healer Luciel was a nuisance began to appear at last.

Chapter 009: Appearance Of Botacyl, The Healing Director In Meratoni City

The Healer Guild's objective was to cultivate talents who could use Holy Magic. The sages in the past dedicated their efforts to establish it in order to develop individuals who could save many others.

Initially, compensation for treatment was paid for in the form of donations.

Instead of money, vegetables or fruits, daily necessities or as long it was given with good intentions, anything was all right.

However after the founders left the world, the healers' way of thinking gradually changed.

Even though the healers casted magic that could save lives, they felt strong resentment against the grudges and abuse placed on them when the magic failed to save a person, which struck the Healer's Guild.

Thus the price came to be determined by the healer's individual discretion and the guild would not speak out unless it was very intolerable. It became a weak presence that only existed to receive donations according to healer ranks and sales from spell books.

The donations were used for the maintenance costs and salary of guild staffs instead of establishment of new clinics or management

of orphanages.

Thus accelerated the momentum of healers being called money-grubbers. (TL: lit. translation was the undead/ghost of money)

"Because of that, the next time you leave the guild please allow us to assign escorts."

"... No way. I didn't think that I would be resented by people I don't even know."

"That's how it is. But above that you have even more allies. All thanks to the Adventurer's Guild, the adventurers and their families. Now do you feel the pressure accumulating?"

"Well since there's no ill intentions to hurt me, it should be fine. If that's the case then I should train more."

"As expected Luciel's thinking deviates in a good way from other healers."

"It is who I am. But where the hell did that information come from?"

"It's in the minds of all the folks living in this city and adventurers against all the healers except you."

"Wow~ Even the residents?"

"Yes. From now on there are conditions if you want to treat injured civilians."

"Ha?"

"What did you expect. There's nobody in this world who charges nothing for information."

"Ha~ Although it's a good thing to treat people, please accept the escorts."

"Oh. I will entrust that to you."

"So, do you know who bears a grudge against me?"

"Yes. The managers of clinics who charge high treatment costs. Among them, it seems like the head of the largest clinic in this city Botacyl set you as his sworn enemy."

"Even though he holds the greatest authority in this city as the university hospital's chairman, he sets a mere rookie healer as his sworn enemy. Is he a mafia boss? If that's the case then he's only a small boss." (TL: He used the term Don to refer to the leader/boss, the term underworld mafia gangs used to address their boss.)

"University hospital? What is that? Anyway I don't know the meaning of this 'Don' you speak of?"

"『Guha~』"

He picked up on the father gag calmly. (TL: The gag was lost in translation. Pretty much he used the Earth's term of 'Don' to set up a gag.)

"Hey hey are you alright?"

"Ye...yes. Anyway don't we have any allies in the clinics?"

"There aren't any who openly ally with us but I think there are some who support us. Those who suggest reasonable prices and not charge exorbitant prices and declare the prices in advance should be our allies."

"By the way what about my reputation?"

"It is generally good within the adventurers. Good skills and empathetic. Residents also requested to be healed in the Adventurer's Guild several times."

"Don't tell me I've already healed residents?"

"Oh were you aware? Talk has been widespread about a healer who, instead of charging exorbitant prices like that guy, uniformly

charges one silver coin for each treatment."

"Huh? One silver coin? Isn't that expensive?"

"... Even though I've already asked Nanaera and the girls to teach you common sense, it's about time you learned a little more common sense."

"No no, I am still a fledgling who is just only entering my second year of being a healer."

My skill as a healer was only average but the location I was at was the best to learn them.

I studied the complete collection of monsters under Nanaera.

My eyes were nurtured by dismantling with Garba.

I studied the complete collection of wild grass under Mirina.

In addition, the Adventurer's Guild had various genres of detailed books.

Also, unless you were excellent, you would not be accepted as a guild staff, not to mention as a receptionist. All staffs were a collection of excellent talent.

Furthermore, in this world with less entertainment, for me reading was also the time of relaxation. In one year I learnt a variety of knowledge.

Although I stood out due to the combat training, my timid personality was because if I failed the healing requests from the rugged adventurers I might be killed ...

While having that thought while chanting 「Heal」, I didn't miss any image training.

After coming to this world and experiencing it for half a year, I was no longer afraid of the adventurers but I was not arrogant as well.

No, wouldn't I be able to safely survive in this world if I shrewdly saved the adventurers and people? The result of desperately working hard has led to my present condition now.

The biggest factor was the treatment at the Adventurer's Guild. In my previous life, the doctors reflected on TV were overworked to death for not even having time to sleep.

Since it did not fall into such a situation, my current life wasn't painful at all.

"That is true. Okay. To increase the survival rate of my temporary staff, we will be training to use various weapons from today onwards."

"No, please do not be so enthusiastic. And please stop pulling me, can you hear me? Instructor Broad? Instructor Broaaaaaddddd~"

My head and clothes were grabbed and I disappeared into the underground training field. Watching the usual me, the adventurers and staffs sent me off with warm eyes.

Such days continued until one day, when I was getting beaten up by Instructor Broad as usual while concentrating on my 「Taijutsu」 and 「Footwork」 training, I was suddenly called upon by an overbearing voice.

"Are you the guild's healer?"

[Who is this?] As I was thinking so "Oi are you listening? You the lanky one."

The people who called out were a man with a rounded stomach and a duo of mercenary-looking men with good physique.

"Who are you? I do not know any barbarians who not only comes over without any appointment but even tries to intimidate me."

I hate it with all my heart when my precious time is wasted. Because Instructor and the surrounding adventurers had started gathering, I decided to give a bullish response.

"What a cheeky boy. What ignorance to not know who I am. Listen well, I am the head of this Meratoni city's largest clinic, Botacyl."

"Rip-off?"

"It's Botacyl. Cheeky boy ... I command you, stop your treatment in the Adventurer's Guild. If you do so then I will hire you in my clinic. I came to say this."

"That is impossible. I cannot refuse the dispatch request from the Healer's Guild. Well even if I could refuse it I would not."

"Oi you bastard. To spurn Botacyl-sama's kindness ... "

As he said that, the mercenary couldn't continue his words under the blood thirst emitted from the adventurers.

"I'd say it's intimidation instead of kindness. I will not fulfill the condition of losing my workplace. You'd better restudy the meaning of those words?"

I was stared at with an amazing glare.

The request to have an escort when I go out looks good.

"Ever since you came to the Adventurer's Guild, our clinic's customers have been decreasing daily."

"Are you putting in effort? Although the clinics are a place to save people, I think patients wouldn't want to go to a place with a bad reputation?"

"Brat, you dare to claim that my clinic has bad reputation!!"

"Nobody said such a thing. But, I am empathetic to patients, provide quick treatments and clearly set my price. I think they would obviously come to my place?"

"Hah, are you trying to lecture me?"

"Huh? Why can't I preach to a person whose name I didn't know until today? Do you even have any idea?"

"This shitty kid, I can destroy a novice healer like you anytime."

Botacyl's blood vessel was popping out of his forehead. Did I fan the flames too much?

"If that's the case, at this great senior's clinic, how much do you charge for what kind of wounds? And what magic do you use?"

"Listen and be astonished. Including me, my clinic uses the upper-class healing magic 「High Heal」. That is at an

unprecedented price of 30 gold coins."

30 million yen was unprecedented?

"Then what magic do you use for patients with fractures?"

"Of course it's 「High Heal」."

"Even though 「Middle Heal」 can treat it?"

"What's the point of using such a low level healing magic."

"I think that it can be used by many people to save many patients though."

"Wrong. Have you heard what would happen if you do unprofitable businesses."

"Hah~ To be able to chant 「High Heal」, you definitely are skilled right? If patients don't come to you even so, don't you think there is a problem with you management?"

"Kukuku. This kid's talking like he understands everything. I'm angry now. Oi you guys, kill this damn thing."

Even though he said so, they didn't move, no they couldn't move.

It was easy to understand from the intimidating aura by the surrounding adventurers what would happen if they became hostile with me.

It was intimidating enough to even be felt by me when it was not even directed at me.

However, tremendous blood thirst was coming from Instructor Broad standing beside me.

"This is Broad from the Adventurer's Guild. Botacyl-dono, from how your clinic conducts business, to what kind of evil you're doing, should I examine every single detail?"

Botacyl trembled under the threat from Instructor Broad.

"Hiiiiii"

He screamed and ran away at full speed towards the exit.

"Oo~ Amazing. To chase him away with just blood thirst, Instructor Broad is really amazing. Ah everyone this time I troubled you all."

I lowered my head.

"Anyway, was that the mastermind?"

"No. That's just a money-loving villain who charges exorbitant prices for treatment and conducts debt slavery."

"Why does something like that go unchallenged? Ah I guess it's useless because there's no law."

"Indeed. Moreover similar to people like him, some people do not pay even after treatment has been done."

So inversely there are many cases like that too.

"In addition to conducting such a fraudulent act to get treatment, they might even sue you for conducting treatment without charging money." (TL: I forgot. Did they say in previous chapters that it was illegal to not charge money?)

"This problem seems very deeply rooted."

"It was lucky that you who had no common sense came here."

"I'm having trouble deciding whether to accept that as a compliment or as criticism."

"Really? It's a good thing that you were not bound to the healer's common sense."

"Well I'm pleased to be told that I'm needed here. But I guess in

the future I will have to be alert?"

"Please leave the support to the Adventurer's Guild. We'll gather a few excellent fellows to have a lookout."

"Thank you. Then let us continue with the training."

"Okay."

Thus I met with Botacyl from Meratoni's largest clinic, and could now properly think about the Healer's Guild, clinics and healers.

On the other hand at that moment, Botacyl who ran away from the Adventurer's Guild was currently in his private room with the 2 mercenaries and slave leader scattered about in the room.

"Ahh~ That was infuriating. That brat made a fool of me, I won't let him off easily. Oi, thoroughly dig up any information regarding that kid, regardless of how trivial the information is."

"That is all good but Botecyl-danna. Isn't it a bit tough to threaten or restrict that guy? After all he is completely protected by the Adventurer's Guild. If it's like that we can't make a move."
(TL: Danna = Usually used to call young masters.)

"I know that even without you saying it. Just shut up and follow my instructions."

"Yes yes. But I must tell you first, even if we kill him, the first person to be suspected would be you young master. In this matter, even if young master is not at fault the adventurers will still doubt you."

"I thought I already told you that I know that."

"Okay okay. It's not necessarily good news but the dispatch from the Healer's Guild should only be at most for one year. That is why I think we should make a situation such that that brat has to leave the city next year."

"You idiot. Like I'll wait until then. Even so, I wonder why is that boy working for that stingy Adventurer's Guild? Oi, you will investigate that brat from both the Adventurer's Guild and Healer's Guild."

"Yes master." The men left Botacyl's private room.

"I'll try to ask the Healer Guild's head if we can skip that brat's term of office. However, that would be impossible if the Adventurer's Guild cannot be convinced no matter how much money is offered. Are there any other methods."

Botacyl continued to ponder.

Chapter 010: Numeric Values And Strength Report

It has been a week since Botacyl came to the adventurer guild.

「Seems that guy has been sniffing around for you one way or another」

「Well, I haven't done anything to be guilty about, it doesn't matter if he is sniffing around」

「Even so, Botacyl is sniffing around you Luciel. If that happen, for those people that want to sell favor to him, someone with hostilities to you might appear」

「... And before you know it, it becomes a vicious cycle」

While screaming words of complaint I hold my face and hung my head down.

「Therefore I'll stop training you as a healer from today onwards」

Instructor Broad declared.

「Haa?」

Did he break? While thinking that he continued to talk.

「Starting today it will be a spartan training similar to that of boxers and paladins.」

「Anoo? Instructor Broad?」

What the heck? Why did his motivation switch suddenly flip? Why??

「Well, be at ease. Since the training so far has been light, we'll double it from now, the meal and that as well, we'll increase them as well.

「Ee? That doesn't make me at ease at all though?」

Then instructor Broad put his hand on my shoulder and speak slowly.

「As a man, there are times when you gonna have to do it」

「Ee? Why do you think that those words could persuade me now of all times?」

「If you don't want to die just follow me quietly」

The low voiced emitted by Instructor broad has a strange feeling of overpowering that it overcome me.

「Yessir」

I salute him

「Good, Come here」

And from within the basement training hall, the sound of Instructor Broad's reprimand, the sound of me screaming, and sometimes accompanied by cries could be heard.

And the new adventurers who heard this, since a healer worked so hard like this, they become more hardworking as well with their training.

And in a place that I don't know of, the survival rate of the adventurers rose up, and the me who start the virtuous cycle, for god know how many years after that the story are passed on.

But being nicknamed [Total M Zombie Healer] are not something to be grateful for, the me at that time wasn't caring about it at all, but all I cared about was how to run away from Instructor Broad

「Can you used barrier now?」

「Yes. Thanks to you I could use a barrier up to intermediate level」

「Is that so. Then prepare yourself immediately」

「A, Yes」

When I activated the Attack Barrier, the next moment my surrounding began to change.

And the very next moment, my chest and back felt so painful that I stopped breathing.

「Fumu. I threw with full strength, yet you are not dead, still conscious as well, and no bone fracture to boot」

Even if he talked with such carefree tone, my state of still not being able to breathe continued.

「You might not have seen it, but I flung Luciel with all my might. The plan is to train you little by little, but if you die, you get absolutely nothing out of it」

「T-the-there are other ways to do so right」

「Are? But I gave you some time to erect the barrier didn't I? And in a real situation, surprise attacks do happen. 」

「That might be true, but even so」

「The things that have been done so far is training. You have not died, and there is no damage so far right? But starting from today the pain part will be added」

Ee? There are pain included so far you know? Why now all of a sudden? Don't tell me...

「... Has the situation turn really bad?」

「Nope, not at all」

Instructor Broad shake his head.

「Haa? Then why?」

「This past year, your body foundation has been finished. There are no bad habit as well. You have no talent, but you continued to put effort in it. If there are that kind of raw material, won't you want to make him your pupil?」

「Could it be?」

「I'll train you as my student from now on. A, that's right, I prohibit you to check your status and skill until I say it's okay」

「... Why can't I?」

「If you only chase after numerical values, the scent of strong person can no longer be smelled」

「The smell of a strong person?」

「Aa. No matter how high your status are, when your neck and head separated a person will always die. Even the current Luciel, if you stab my defenseless neck, I will die. A person who are a slave to his status, when he encountered a dilemma he will become useless.」

Those words are strangely persuasive.

「... Understood」

「I won't surprise attack you this time, raise your barrier up properly. Then we will begin the battle」

「Yes. I'll be in your care. 」

「Focus all of your senses on your opponent's body. Set feint with your eyes, there are also ways to feint by changing your center of gravity, With your current skill you won't be able to grasp the feint technique.」

「Well, the awareness is fine」

「First try to grasp your opponent's movement. Next step is to defense, parry, and evasion are the steps to do that」

「Those are the same as what I've done so far」

「That's right. But both the power and the speed are another thing. This is where you put the feint in」

「Understood」

「Once you get used to it, imagine yourself fighting an opponent and you watch yourself from overhead view」

「IS THAT NOT THE LEVEL OF A MASTER!!?」

「I'll say it first, I hope you are not planning on running away」

「... I'll do what I can」

「Normally that is where one would say “I'll do my best to endure” you know? That side of yours is really impertinent」

「In this world, there is no such things as absolute. Instructor Broad」

「... I'm going to go at it at full strength, make sure you don't get crushed. Try to endure with all your strength」

「Sorry for being impertinent. I'll be counting on you like usual」

「.....」

And the very next moment, i got blown away by 5 meters. Then without losing my consciousness, for the next one hour, I was in a continuous state of being a sandbag.

「Okay. That's it for today's training. After this it will be the usual training, Taijutsu, Kenjutsu, Shield-handling (Tatejutsu), Spearmanship (Soujutsu) and archery (Kyuujutsu).

「... Un . der . . sto . od . .」

I collapsed face first, 15 minutes later water are poured on my head and I get up to begin the taijutsu training.

「This is the basic so I can get stronger. The basic have to be trained completely」are the words that I muttered many times over like a curse, and the adventurers who heard those words begin to train their basic training which resulted in the Meratoni's adventurers becoming stronger.

In this world there are 6 days in a week, The day of light and the day of wind are the day for taijutsu combat. As for the day of flame it's for kenjutsu and tatejutsu. Soujutsu for day of water. Kyuujutsu and throwing skill on day of soil. And at the day of darkness it's study time and magic training day, those are the arranged day for the trainings.

When doing kenjutsu and soujutsu, in the middle of combat there would be cuts all over my body making it covered in blood, but as expected when that happened I'm allowed to cast Heal on my

body. It's for the first time when I used magic that I realized the effect of the magic and begin to rapidly understand the effect of the magic. And I kept growing while obtaining such by-products.

And at that time, Botacyl was reading a report.

Report Luciel Job : Healer Age : 16 Year Old

He was an ignorant villager. At the coming of age ceremony he obtained the occupation healer and possessed aptitude in holy attribute magic.

After that, 6 months and 17 days ago under the guidance of Paladin Lumina, he registered at the healer guild.

At first, he couldn't use heal, but after 7 days of confining himself in the guild's lodging house, he managed to learn heal.

After that, instead of going for a clinic he went to the adventurer's guild, for some reason he begin to work hard at training taijutsu.

In compensation for an hour of martial arts lessons, he would pay 1 silver coin per hour while he resides there as well, and he did nothing but train martial arts without missing a single day for a year.

Incidentally, during the update of his card this year, his Holy element magic has been raised to level V, it seems while being

injured during taijutsu he continually used magic to recover himself.

As proof for that, Zombie Healer, Total M Healer, Total M Zombie Healer are his nicknames whispered behind his back.

As for the people he has friendly relationship with, at the very top is the guild master and as for the guild staffs and the adventurers, since the person himself has a disposition that prefers to train over socializing, he doesn't have any close friend.

However, his credibility within the adventurer guild and the adventurers is high, it seems for as long as it's not unreasonable his request would be accepted.

As for the bill for healer Luciel's service, the surprising thing is that he himself doesn't establish rates and set his fee uniformly at 1 silver coin.

As for the reason, the circumstances that led to him being employed in the first place and him starting to live in the guild seems to be strongly related .

Botacyl begin to scan on the report and as his whole body tremble all over, he crumples the report and throw them to the ground.

「A SINGLE SILVER COIN!? DON'T FUCK WITH ME!! Because this bastard exist he makes the other healer and me looked like a money grubber」

Botacyl become irritated by the low price that Lucile had set for his healing service.

「Being loved by the heavens and given talents for this, what's so wrong with wishing for richness. These hypocrites!!」

After trampling the report for god knows how many times, Botacyl run out of breath and start gasping for air 「waahaahaa」 sit on his chair and begin to write a single letter on his table.

「Oi. Hand this over to the head of healer guild, also, this as well」

「Understood」

The letter is addressed to Saint Schull church healer's guild Meratoni branch about an affiliated young healer that placed an unreasonable fee and is getting in the way of healing business.

However if it's possible, after the one year contract ends send him somewhere far away, and if you can, to the headquarters.

I'll entrust this money to you, write it in the magic document that you are hesitating in giving him that order.

「With this even if it's found out that he is to be transferred, it won't affect my reputation. Kuukuukuu. If my reputation can become better with only this chump change then it's a good

bargain.」

And thus Botacyl decide to tolerate Luciel's action for the next one year.

Botacyl could not possibly imagine that his action right now would influence his fate later on. (TLN: Fate can be read as doom on the kanji)

Side Story 2: Meratoni Adventurer Guild's Three Heavyweights Anxious About Luciel's Future

Regardless of the type of guild, guilds are open 24 hours a day 360 days a year.

Meratoni's Adventurer's Guild is no exception.

There is a system of shifts split into morning shift, afternoon shift and night shift. However there are some guilds who do not run by shifts as well.

"Okay. Remember to start your morning tomorrow with a run as well."

"Yes Instructor Broad."

Luciel returned to the underground sleeping chambers.

"Alright. Maybe I'll get a drink."

Broad talked to Grulga who was at the counter. Usually the dining hall within the guild does not serve sake but this was also the privilege of a guild master.

"Yeah. By the way Broad, recently you look rejuvenated."

"I'm surprised myself. After I began teaching him, my 「Taijutsu」 level became 「Taijutsu VIII」."

"Heh~ amazing. Even the Whirlwind-sama who climbed up until S rank using swordsmanship and instantaneous movement had his 「Taijutsu」 skill level increased."

"I'm certain."

Kukuku. The sound of a suppressed laughter.

"And so? How does Luciel feel about the current environment?"

"He only thinks of ways so as to not die. Well the truth is he is desperately soaking up training so he doesn't have time to think about anything else."

"Hah~. The guy have continued drinking the undiluted solution of that but do you know the effects of it?"

"No I don't. It's written in literature that a sage in the past made it. Supposedly it can make the body stronger and make it easier for status to rise."

"So have actual effects appeared?"

"Um, although he is definitely stronger compared to when he

first came here, he is still around the level of a F rank warrior."

"Nevertheless, he's amazing to continue drinking that. His bad breath after drinking that should probably be quite harsh right?"

"Ah. I'm the only one around him and the others plug their nose when they get close to him. Well it's not a problem as long as you don't approach him after meals."

"Even my that brother Garba commented on the terrible smell."

"Well the bad breath disappears 30 minutes after drinking that so somehow others do not notice it and it finished without anyone hating him for it."

"No wonder."

For the adolescent Luciel who desires to become stronger even by a little, even though they sympathized with him, the two people steeled their heart and had him drink that.

"Ah, Broad and Grulga thanks for your hard work."

There, Grulga's brother Galba came.

"Garba, good job."

"Don't mention it. Besides, it's easier than the guild master's work."

"Oh big brother, would you like some ale?"

"Yup."

"And?"

"Ah. Because the negotiations went well, even if he goes over to the other side, he would no longer be targeted."

"And the mastermind?"

"It was unusual that the mastermind was Botacyl. However, I was surprised that the slave leader tried a coup d'etat."

"Hoh. That's tough."

"And so what would big brother do now?"

"The Healer Guild's head seems to be swimming in quite a bit of gold so it's about time to crush him."

"Kukuku. It's finally time for Garba the hermit to act huh."

As you could guess from this conversation, Garba's work does not

only involve dismantling. Like a detective, he gathers information and evidence in the shadows. In the past he's even done assassinations.

"I wonder what is Luciel-kun hiding, he always tries his hardest to survive and he's an oddball to come knocking on the doors of the Adventurer's Guild because he doesn't want to die."

"That's certainly true."

"So? In five months, how far can you train him until?"

"Hmm. Since he is still level 1, the most he can do is beat an E rank warrior. However using tricks, he might be able to defeat C ranks. Well although it's in the future, he still have an allowance for growth."

" ... If he hasn't change after a few years later, maybe I'll train him too."

" ... If you teach him then he will die."

"He'll be fine. I am different from you who seriously cuts with a single stroke. Moreover I feel that he somehow has a chaotic constitution."

"Although Garba's readings are mostly ominous, they are often correct."

"I wonder when would he fall in love?"

"Huh? Doesn't the receptionist girls all seem to like Luciel-kun?"

"It's more like they see him as a little brother. Even though his height and looks aren't bad, his nicknames are zombie and masochist."

" ... Isn't that due to the devil instructor and cooking bear?"

"I am just generously preparing meals and that. Don't lump me together with some battle maniac."

"Who are you calling a battle maniac. But I wonder ... I don't know his taste but it would be good if we could find somebody who will fall in love with him."

"He will be fine. And he seems to prefer girls with wonderful smiles and cute gestures."

"Which is also ..."

" ... Ah"

"Well lets comfort him if he gets fooled."

"Hah~"

Thus the next day Broad and Grulga treated Luciel a little bit better.

Chapter 011: A New Journey

Six months will soon pass since I became Instructor's disciple after my healer training.

These days, I had completely forgotten about Botacyl. No, I did not have the time to afford to think of such things.

People will feel surprised when a thin layer of skin was slashed at a speed that can't be perceived, closely followed by the rushing pain and the fear of being injured.

However, in the case when the speed could be perceived but the thin layer of skin was still slashed, the fear of getting attacked stiffens the body, an intense pain will be felt to recognize that the slash had happened, together with the surprise at the technique that could slash precisely the thin layer of skin only.

I was told to say what I want to say so I thought until there and asked Instructor Broad.

"Instructor Broad, why was it that my body, arms and legs were still slashed even though I had already put up my defense."

"Because you were able to perceive my attacks in just half a year, I was in high spirits."

Instructor Broad faced the side with a pout.

"Please don't be envious of your disciple's talent. And an uncle pouting is not cute at all."

I grinned.

"Then, how about this uncle slash you for another hour."

"I am sorry."

I immediately regretted my decision and decisively prostrated on the ground.

"There's no helping it then. It'll soon be noon so let's go to Grulga's place."

"Yes. Instructor Broad."

I had realized the gradual changes of my body this last six months.

"Oh. Today you guys are earlier than usual."

"Yeah. He said that he hated being slashed so there was no choice."

"Normally you'd probably hate to be slashed right."

However, as usual there were no changes in my daily life.

"Anyway, when you came here you were so lanky but now your physique has gotten considerably better."

"It certainly has. If we had the training like we have now when you just came, I would surely accidentally cut off your arm many times."

"Please don't say such frightening things."

"Even if you walked outside, I don't think anybody would notice that Luciel is a healer."

"Well, a normal healer would never do combat training like Luciel."

"It's a little too late now. Recently, having been slashed by Instructor Broad every day, my fear of blades have weakened as well."

"... Normally wouldn't you become more scared?"

"Several times, I had been slashed with a single stroke by mistake, but I did not die so I've gained confidence of at least surviving."

"Sometimes he experienced growth and saw through my sudden

attacks, so I occasionally slashed seriously but each time I was seriously worried as well."

" ... Truly the masochist zombie and devil instructor teacher student duo. Common sense was totally thrown out of the window."

"Devil instructor aside, please stop with the masochist zombie."

"Just how am I a devil instructor. Aren't I giving gentle guidance."

"" ""

"The two of you, what's with those eyes. Enough. Grulga hurry up and give me my lunch."

"Sure thing."

Just as we were eating our lunch.

"Luciel-kun. Somehow there's a letter for you from Saint Schull's Church Guild Headquarters."

Nanaera-san brought a letter over.

"Thank you very much Nanaera-san"

Upon receipt of the letter, it was definitely a letter from the Guild Headquarters of Saint Schull's Church.

"What is it?"

"Even I do not know much about the Healer's Guild. Try opening it and reading."

When I opened the letter as told, surprising contents were written on it.

Letter of Appointment

Saint Schull's Church Healer's Guild, Meratoni Branch affiliate Luciel is hereby ordered to transfer to Saint Schull's Church headquarters in the Holy City as a staff.

Although this is unprecedented, it has been decided due to the talent and hard work of someone so young to be able to reach 「Holy Magic V」 and the strong determination to save lives according to the recommendations received.

In consideration of the dispatch to the Adventurer's Guild, after the end of the dispatch period next year May, you will be immediately transferred.

Pope Fluna Aryudeli de Schull

"It's some kind of letter of appointment. It's written that I will be transferred to the Church Headquarters."

"They've got us. Didn't expect them to use this method."

"What do you mean?"

"It's Botacyl. Because he knew that you are protected as long as you don't leave the Adventurer's Guild, he decided to get you sent to the headquarters."

"Why would he do that?"

"He wasn't really aiming for your life. He was aiming to stop the treatment you carry out in this guild."

"So he transferred me to the headquarters just for that?"

"Yeah. In addition, to make sure that you don't come back anytime soon, because of the pope's name on the letter, you should be given some sort of title or position."

"Isn't that ... like a promotion. Maybe this is something like a promotional transfer?"

"It is. This creates some unnecessary trouble."

"I am sorry for that."

"It can't be helped. Luckily we still have another half a year. From now on together with the Spartan training you will be seeing more and more patients in need of healing."

"Understood."

"For starters, confirm your status and skills."

I immediately confirmed them.

I have obtained 「Parallel Thinking」, 「Chant Shortening」, 「Sword Mastery」, 「Shield Mastery」, 「Spear Mastery」and 「Archery」.

At that instant, when I recounted the memories of countless number of trainings I had the past half a year, I was so pleased that it was not all in vain that my tears suddenly started flowing and I was teased by Instructor Broad and the others.

From the next day, with regards to treatment, the guild removed the limitations against people with light injuries as well as the patient number limit, resulting in me using vast number of healing magic every day.

After continuously healing until the point of drying up, Object X

was transported over. Since Object X recovers MP slightly, the days of drinking it and healing continued.

It was the same during combat training as well. However Luciel didn't notice that the concentration of Object X was gradually being raised.

Thus I who still remained at level 1, had numerous skills beaten into my body. My one year dispatch period to the Adventurer's Guild ended.

"Everyone, I had been taken care of greatly. If I had not been picked up by the Adventurer's Guild, I would not have been able to spend such fruitful time. Truly thank you very much."

"I will say on behalf of everyone. You have done well. Thanks to you a great number of adventurers' lives were saved. Plenty of us did not have to stop adventuring and did not have to lose family members."

"Thank you very much."

"I'm bad with tearful departures. Here, this is a parting gift. Take it. There's money in this leather bag. This here is a cheap bag but it is a magic bag that can keep up to 10 pieces of anything. Included are some equipment as well so use them. This is proof of everyone's appreciation."

" ... For such a person like me ... sniff. I bon't beserve zis." (TL:

crying and speaking illegibly.)

This is bad and ... it's already useless. To receive everyone's warmth despite me coming over just for myself, my tear glands were breached.

"Don't cry. Just come back someday and work for the guild cheaply."

"Don't forget to bring back souvenirs."

Meruneru-san laughed while saying so and I left the Adventurer's Guild with a relaxed mood.

I started my journey in a horse-drawn carriage owned by the Adventurer's Guild.

"Well then everyone, thank you for the next few days of escort from today onwards."

"Leave it up to me."

"Leave it up to me."

"I'll defeat whatever that comes except dragons."

The reliable answers came from Bazzan-san and the others who

accepted my escort request this time.

"Even I did not expect to be escorted by an A rank party."

"That's because Luciel is our lifesaver. Moreover it was thanks to you that we could reach A rank. We scrambled to receive this escort request by Luciel."

The wolf beastman Bazzan-san said so while laughing.

Looking at them, my image of adventurers since coming to this world had taken a 180° change and I inadvertently thought about how strong stereotypes were.

"I will first need to go through an update procedure in Saint Schull's church Healer's Guild so please wait a moment."

I got off the horse-drawn carriage and entered the Healer's Guild.

[It's quiet inside after all~] I thought so as I proceeded towards the counter.

"Welcome to Saint Schull's church Healer's Guild, Meratoni Branch."

"Krull-san, please help me with my update procedure." I passed her my card.

"Eh? Eeeeehhh?! You are Luciel-kun?"

"Yup. Did you not notice?"

"I wouldn't notice in normal cases. How could I, even though you were so lanky previously, now you've become more mature and athletic."

"So that's why. Ah, this time I'm updating my particulars and transferring to the headquarters but I was told to go get a spell book?"

"Ah. It was Luciel-kun who was sent to the headquarters. Wait it's Luciel-kun? Didn't you just only turn 17?"

"Yup. Oh, it seems like it was an exception within the exceptions."

"Ha~. This sister is worn out from all these information that are beyond expectations."

"Haha. Then I would like to update my guild card and get the requested spell book, together with other spell books not covered by the request."

"There's no need for that. Spell books up to AAA rank will be awarded to healers posted to the headquarters."

"That's amazing."

"Don't you think so too? But actually you would be permitted to purchase them when you reach A rank."

"Why is that so?"

"From A rank and above, you would not be promoted unless you contributed to a great extent to the guild. It is something like a kind of honorary position."

"So that's how it is."

"Well then I'll immediately update your card. ... Hah~ It's amazing that you are posted to the headquarters at such a young age. I can raise you up to A rank."

"Well then please raise me up to A rank."

"Understood. ... Okay. From now on Luciel-kun has become a A rank healer. Please wait a moment."

Krull-san went to the back and immediately returned with a number of spell books.

"This is all of them. This time the money for the spell books are no longer necessary and neither do you need to pay for the donation because you now work for the headquarters."

"I see. Well then when I come back to this city I'll pop by."

"I look forward to you becoming someone great and raising my salary."

"Hahaha. I'll do my best." Thus I left the Healer's Guild after exchanging some greetings.

"Thank you for waiting. Let's begin our journey."

Just like that, two years of life had passed in the city of Meratoni and it was time to start a journey to a new location.

Name: Luciel

Job: Healer IV

HP: 420

Age: 17

MP: 160

LV: 1

ST: 180

STR: 42

INT: 72

VIT: 51

MGI: 64

DEX: 47

RMG: 54

AGI: 54

SP: 0

Magic Aptitude: Holy

【Skills】

「Appraisal—」 「Throwing III」 「Great luck—」 「Dismantling II」
「Taijutsu V」 「Danger Perception IV」 「Magic Power Control VII」
「Footwork III」 「Magic Power Manipulation VII」 「Parallel Thinking
I」 「Holy Magic VII」

「Sword Mastery I」 「Meditation V」 「Shield Mastery I」
「Concentration VI」 「Spear Mastery I」 「HP Recovery IV」 「Archery
I」 「MP Recovery VI」 「Chant Shortening III」 「Stamina Recovery V」
「Chant Termination I」

「HP Increased Rate of Growth V」 「MP Increased Rate of Growth
V」 「ST Increased Rate of Growth V」 「STR Increased Rate of
Growth V」 「VIT Increased Rate of Growth V」 「DEX Increased Rate
of Growth V」 「AGI Increased Rate of Growth V」 「INT Increased
Rate of Growth V」 「MGI Increased Rate of Growth V」 「RMG
Increased Rate of Growth V」

「Poison Resistance VI」 「Curse Resistance VI」 「Paralysis
Resistance VI」 「Weakness Resistance VI」 「Petrification Resistance
VI」 「Seal Resistance VI」 「Sleep Resistance VI」 「Disease Resistance
VI」 「Charm Resistance II」 「Blunt Damage Resistance II」

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10)

「God of Destiny's blessing」(Increased SP acquisition)

Adventurer's Guild: E rank

Healer's Guild: A rank

Book 2: The Labyrinth And The Valkyrie Paladin Corps

Chapter 012: Holy Attribute Magic, The Price Of Treatment

During the 5 days of being jolted around in the horse-drawn carriage, we were attacked by monsters several times along the way but Bazzan-san and his party trampled on them easily.

Along the road we stopped by a village with an inn. As a result of successful negotiations, we were able to receive food and bedding by simply casting healing magic.

All the negotiations were done by Bazzan-san and his party.

For some reason some of the villagers worshipped me when I applied healing magic for treatment. But I was told to not worry about it because in exchange we received a sumptuous meal and clean bedding.

I was prepared for camping out during the journey. However without even camping out, we had arrived at Saint Schull's church's Healer's Guild Headquarters located within the Saint Schull Holy City of the Saint Schull Allied Nations.

When I first heard the names, I thought to myself wasn't Schull too overused? When I asked that, apparently it was a taboo ... Bazzan-san and his party warned me against speaking about it.

"Bazzan-san, Skyros-san, Basra-san, thank you for the escort."

I bowed to the three of them while thanking them.

"Well it's only natural that we accepted the request when not only were we nominated by the Adventurer's Guild, you are also our lifesaver."

Basra-san glanced at the other two and said so.

"That's right. Both Skyros and I would have really been in danger if you didn't detect the poison on us. Basra would have become a one man party."

Bazzan-san affirmed and laughed with a ferocious look.

"Yeah that's right. I was saved thanks to Luciel-kun."

Skyros-san also smiled and affirmed in the same manner.

"No no don't mention it. However, talking like this makes me feel a little lonely thinking that I'm going to be away from Meratoni."

"Well Luciel would be welcomed back with a huge welcome party if you returned but work hard to memorize whatever's inside those spell books in the Healer's Guild Headquarters."

"That is true. Everyone, seriously thank you for the escort."

"Yeah. It would have been great if we could drink sake next time."

In the end nobody drank sake for my transfer this time around.

"Yup. I will work hard so that I can treat you all next time."

"I'm looking forward to that."

"Don't become like Botacyl."

"Okay."

After we've carried out our farewells, the three of them rode the horse-drawn carriage and turned back towards Meratoni.

By the way along the way during the journey, I looked through the 7 spell books I got from the Meratoni branch Healer's Guild and repeatedly chanted and memorized the magic within the books.

Holy attribute magic support magic 「Aura coat」.

It could shut out miasma from the air for one hour, delay the progression of diseases and make it harder to fall into abnormal states. MP consumption is 10.

Holy attribute magic special magic 「Purification」.

Chanting this could expel all impurities but in actual fact it is a

universal magic that can even remove dirt. MP consumption is 16.

Advanced healing magic 「High Heal」.

It boasts 10 times the recovery amount of 「Heal」 but the consumption is not small at 15 MP.

Intermediate area healing magic 「Area Middle Heal」.

An improved healing magic over the 「Area Heal」, it doesn't change the scope of recovery area but it increased the amount of recovery by 3 times. However MP consumption is 30 MP per cast.

Advanced area healing magic 「Area High Heal」.

Intended as an improvement to the 「Area Middle Heal」, the radius increased to 3 meters but the MP used each time is said to be 75.

Abnormal state healing magic 「Recover」.

A magic that could recover poison, paralysis, charm, sleep, seal and magic-induced weakness but has no effect on petrification, curse, hallucinations and disease. MP consumption is 18.

Holy attribute magic special healing magic 「Dispel」.

Seems to be capable of curing abnormal states like petrification, curse and hallucinations. MP consumption seems to be 60 and is said to be able to have other effects.

Yeah. The ambiguously described 「Area High Heal」 and 「Dispel」 could not be triggered due to my low 「Holy Attribute Magic」 skill level. However I did properly memorize the chants.

Furthermore, 「Area Middle Heal」 and 「Recover」 cannot be lightly used because they require a ton of magic.

"Well then, here I go."

I fired myself up and set foot into the towering large palace without hindrance.

The inside of the building had expansive marble flooring that spread throughout the hall. There was an information counter strongly reminiscent of my previous life.

"Welcome. This is the Healer's Guild Headquarters. May I help you."

"I am Luciel. Affiliated healer to the Meratoni branch of the Saint Schull's church Healer's Guild. I have a letter of appointment to transfer to the headquarters but how should I go about doing it?"

"Please wait a moment."

The receptionist-san held a crystal-looking item and closed her eyes.

[Is that a magic tool?] When I was thinking of such a thing, she began talking towards the crystal.

"Looks like a telepathy assist tool?"

When I murmured, the other receptionists seemingly heard it and nodded to confirm my deduction.

"That's right. Luciel-sama is knowledgeable."

I conversed back while feeling surprised.

"No. I don't know the mechanism of how it works, I've only seen a similar magic tool in the Adventurer's Guild."

"I see. Oh, welcome Granhart-sama."

I looked back after hearing that. Instead of a man with gentle features, I saw a man of around 40 years old clothed in a giant white robe looking like an adventurer.

"Are you Luciel-dono? My name is Granhart. I work as a priest here and I was the one who called you over. I will help you with your transfer so please come with me."

He placed a hand on the wall past the reception and the wall parted open.

"Come on, go inside."

It seems like there is a elevator in this world. I was hit by the nostalgic feeling of having not ridden in lift after so long.

"This is a magic elevator. It operates by recognizing magic power."

Is this to prevent escape? We...well it's not like I'm going to get killed ... I might have to think of means to escape.

"This is it."

A voice was directed at me as I followed the guide.

"Oh? You were the one I inducted into Meratoni city's Healer's Guild ... Louis-kun right?"

The owner of the voice was Lumina-san.

"Oh, long time no see. Lumina-sama. And my name is Luciel. Even though my physique has changed, it's pretty amazing that you immediately knew it was me?"

"Because the waves of your magical power was clear, I remembered it."

Magical power can be seen? No, that's not what I want to say.

"Thank you for your help in Meratoni. Somehow I became able to perform some novice treatment after this two years."

"I see I see. I don't have time now so please come to my room later."

"Granhart-dono, please get somebody to guide her to my room later."

"... Yes."

I felt that Granhart-san's expression or rather his atmosphere became stiff.

Lumina-san left after hearing those words.

Later, Granhart-san, in silence the entire way, guided me to the room in accordance to her will and I entered.

It was a dimly lit room that you wouldn't think to find in the same headquarters and there were whips and saws placed in the room completely reminiscent of torture rooms.

While keeping my fear in check thinking that it was a prank, I summoned what little courage I had and spoke.

"This room looks just like a torture room? What is the meaning of this?"

I decided to express my discomfort.

Maybe Granhart-san already expected that the question, he maintained his aloof attitude.

"Don't worry, this is merely a warehouse. It's a shortcut to pass through here."

After he said so, the next room we passed through into was an interrogation room that looked like it came out from a drama.

Since there wasn't any dangerous feeling, I decided to enter.

"Sit down." Granhart said after he sat down and took out a letter.

"I was surprised when the Meratoni branch Healer's Guild sent me this letter. You harmed the interest of other healers and made the revenue of the Meratoni branch fall. That's what was written in the letter. So I want to confirm the facts."

Oh~ So it's like that. I can excel in these kind of business talks

where I can speak logically and don't need to pack all the information together.

I remembered those working days from up until two years ago.

I recalled all the memories up until right before my promotion.

I stopped recalling, opened my eyes and began to talk.

"... The contents in the letters are in a way the facts."

"Ho. Are you pleading guilty?"

A surprised look floated on Granhart's face as he didn't expect me to admit to it.

"What am I guilty of? Just after I became a healer two years ago, I received 「Taijutsu」 training at the Adventurer's Guild in exchange for carrying out treatment within the Adventurer's Guild. Is this a crime?"

"No it isn't."

"Moreover at that time I could only use 「Heal」 but they not only provided me with three meals, bedding and clothes, they even paid me salary. Is this a crime?"

"Nope."

"This was my action status for a whole year since registration. From the second year, I was dispatched to the Adventurer's Guild as a temporary staff. Thanks to the hard work from my first year, I raised my Holy attribute magic skill level and memorized some magic. Is this illegal?"

" ... No, these were all legitimate behaviors for healers."

He is a little bit confused.

"In the second year, I was grateful for the salary and equipment from the Adventurer's Guild and adventurers that was even more than the first year."

"I find no problem with your actions. But the problem seems to be that the cost of your treatments was too cheap. What do you have to say regarding that?"

" ... What do Granhart-sama think regarding the current situation? I did not say that it is bad to obtain money for recovery magic or rather I think it is legitimate to charge for treatment as it was my work."

"Yup. The Healer's Guild is such an entity."

"The person who sent you that letter, I do not intend to pry to find out who it was ... But I heard that the Meratoni healer clinic

uses 「High Heal」 to treat wounds that can be treated with 「Heal」 and 「Middle Heal」. Due to the exorbitant prices charged by the clinic and practitioners, the patients fall into debt and become debt slaves ... I heard that there were such cowardly clinics. Comparatively isn't this act more of a problem? I even heard that they said that it was cumbersome to display their fees in advance and sometimes they even charged additional fees. How does the Healer's Guild manage clinics that do not do such obvious things?"

"Are you lashing out against the Saint Schull's church Healer's Guild Headquarters?"

"I would like it if you do not switch my words. Instead of ranting, I am asking if Granhart-dono thinks that there is negligence in the teaching of ignorant healers like me of what should be done."

"Such as the ideals of the Healer's Guild?"

"Yes. At the time when the Healer's Guild was founded, I heard that the fee was not determined by lofty people. As time passed the healers began to ask for money. So far there's no problem."

Granhart-san folded his arm and closed his eyes.

"Continue."

"I'll return to the story. How do you price magic? One copper coin? One silver coin? One gold coin? A hundred gold coins? I think that what's expensive and what's cheap varies from person to

person. As long as the guild does not specify a rough pricing, don't you think the rest is up to the marketing efforts of the healer?"

Currently there's no fixed price so it won't become a problem no matter how high or low the price is.

"... Then the healers would determine the price range depending on the various kinds of magic. Is that what you are saying?"

"That's also slightly wrong. There is a difference in the recovery amount of a novice who had just memorized 「Heal」 and a veteran healer. Obviously the veteran would heal more."

"I don't understand what you are trying to say. Say it briefly."

"This time the problem written in the letter is a problem born from the ambiguous pricing."

"Okay."

"You must first look at the degree of injury then present an appropriate fee. If the charges were presented beforehand then there would be no problem. Well of course this can't be done if the injury is a life-threatening one."

"Yup."

"The healers belong to the Saint Schull's church Healer's Guild.

Paying a donation, we are allowed to memorize Holy attribute magic and exercise the magic. Is the Healer's Guild selling the spell books just for the money? No right?"

"But of course. It is used to develop new talents and pay for the Healer's Guild maintenance cost."

"That's right. That's why, by making a guideline for the prices and presenting the price beforehand, the healer profession would get more respect and people will think that it is honest work."

It's because there's no insurance in this world.

"Hmm. But in the end that is just your own thoughts?"

Oh, this guy is the stubborn type.

"Just for an example, Granhart-san is going out to get food. Price wasn't stated but you thought that according to the food's taste, amount and materials it would cost 10 copper coins but you were billed for 10 gold coins. What would Granhart-san do?"

"Naturally I would complain."

"At that time, "It is expensive because plenty of premium materials were used. You will become a slave if you do not pay for the portion you ate.", is said. If Granhart-san only had 9 gold coins at that moment, then you will fall into slavery. What do you think about this?"

"Even if it's objectionable I can only say "Yes.""

"You would ask "Why me". It was because you didn't know the price in advance. Not only for restaurants, if the price is presented in advance such problems would not occur."

" ... "

"Even in Meratoni, only healers in a few stores display their charges in advance. If people knew how much it would cost in advance, I think more people would surely visit the clinics."

" ... "

"But, if the situation remains as it is now, it is possible for the healers to collude with slave dealers to mass produce slaves. Now, was my healing magic too expensive? Too cheap? I do not know. But I paid for the donation each month."

" ... "

"So just who will decide on the prices?"

" Nu~ ... Understood. I will look into this together with the other priests and bishop-samas."

Granhart-san was already tired.

"So what should I do?"

"For starters I'll call somebody to guide you to Lumina-dono's room."

Thereafter, Granhart-san weakly returned to the corridor. The guide was worried about Granhart-san's haggard appearance but still guided me to Lumina-san's room.

Side Story 3: White Wolf's Bloodline And The Eccentric Healer

At the rest area in Meratoni Adventurer's Guild.

My name is Bazzan. I formed a party called the White Wolf's Bloodline.

I formed the party with my childhood friends Skyros and Basra.

I am the beastman descendent of the White Wolf which is revered as a holy beast, as I was the strongest amongst the three of us, the party name was chosen as so.

In this world there aren't many lands that are liveable for beastmen.

Due to genetics, we possess both body hair that quickly grows longer as well as a tail. As a result ordinary beastmen are shunned by the majority of humans.

Amongst those, companion type beastmen were treated like pets by the humans.

On that day, by chance I came to the Meratoni Adventurer's Guild to report a B rank mission.

A lanky guy was begging the receptionist Nanaera-chan.

"If that guy acts up I'll go over immediately."

"Don't overdo it. He's so scrawny he might just die."

"Anything is fine except for that."

"I know."

It seemed like there were others who had the same line of thought as me.

Remarkably, there are various races that work in this Meratoni Adventurer's Guild.

Well there is the presence of 'Whirlwind' who is an existence above the clouds as well as the legends within the beastmen community, 'Cooking Bear' and 'Hermit-san', in this guild. Even the despicable Healer's Guild and Magician's Guild cannot touch us. (TL: If you don't remember, Instructor Broad's nickname is 'Whirlwind', Grulga-san is 'Cooking Bear' and Garba-san is 'Hermit-san')

When I was thinking of such things, Nanaera-chan left her seat and the scrawny man was on his own.

Normally when Nanaera-chan flees a man should chase after her. And judging from Nanaera-chan's troubled smile, I thought that

this human might be a rare type that can repel beastmen.

After a few minutes, Nanaera-chan brought Broad-san over.

... Is that guy fine? Even while receiving Broad-san's amazing intimidation he could still explain himself clearly.

"Don't you think that scrawny guy is pretty strong?"

"Yeah. He can even withstand that level of intimidation. He might possibly be some magician from somewhere."

My prediction at that time was totally out. No, his courage alone was first-class among adventurers so it might not have been wrong altogether."

An unusual announcement was released at the Adventurer's Guild.

The announcement content was that three days later a healer would be staying in the Meratoni Adventurer's Guild.

Although the novice healer was only able to cast 「Heal」, treatment was uniformly one silver coin regardless of race and gender.

In addition, just by looking at the scrawny physique of the man you can immediately understand.

If you pick a fight, your adventurer rank would be dropped as a penalty.

It would vanish just like that.

The first thing that surprised me was the dropping of rank. This was an unusual VIP treatment. It was even more surprising that it was the 'Whirlwind' that ordered so.

Next was the point on regardless of race. Just like I mentioned before, the beastmen were shunned and sometimes refused treatment or hit with an exorbitant price.

We were thankful that it wasn't so.

"Perhaps it was that guy from a while ago?"

"Yeah. It would seem to be so."

"A guy that had such great courage was actually a healer. Well let's take it with a grain of salt."

"It's not like it complicates things for Nanaera-chan."

"Yeah."

Thus we decided that that lanky healer Luciel was not just a simple healer.

It was our first encounter with a healer that was unlike any other healer.

Two days later we departed after receiving an request for escort from Meratoni to the Elimasia Empire.

Three months had passed since then when we returned to the Meratoni guild after the expedition ended.

"This time's expedition was much longer."

"That merchant was so impudent I almost gave up."

"Well didn't he behave himself after we defeated that monster."

"I guess so."

"Now that I think about it, do you want to make a bet if the healer is still in the Adventurer's Guild?"

"That's a good idea. I bet that he is not." Skyros was the first to answer.

" ... I think he is still around." It was unusual that Basra chose

that choice.

"I also think that he's not. Basra why do you think that he is?"

"Despite of what the healer wants, I don't think that 'Whirlwind' would let that guy escape."

"I see. Well then let us bet our drinking expenses later after we finish our report."

""Okay.""

Thus we went to the Adventurer's Guild.

"I don't see him anywhere. Kukuku. I'm swimming in alcohol."

"『Che』" Basra clicked his tongue.

"Ah welcome. White Wolf's Bloodline-sama, are you all here to report?"

"Oh Nanaera-chan. By the way, how long has it been since that healer from three months ago stopped coming back?"

"Eh? Do you mean Luciel-kun?"

"It's rare that you attach -kun to a person. If that's the case then

he lasted longer than a month?" Skyros asked.

"Fufufu. Nope." I had a bad feeling from Nanaera-chan's bright smile.

"Kukuku. Perhaps he is still showing up?" Basra strangely became cheerful and asked.

"Fufufufuuu. Ah sorry. If you are talking about Luciel-kun then he currently lives in the sleeping chambers underground."

""Hah~?"" Our exclamations were surprisingly in sync.

After that, we heard that that healer Luciel genuinely lived in the Adventurer's Guild and after every meal he properly finishes that drink that Grulga-san gives to all rookie adventurers.

Contrary to expectations, he seemed to confront 'Whirlwind' all day and was said to be addicted to training as he had only left the Adventurer's Guild once ever since he started staying here.

"Aren't the nicknames taste disorder, masochist and zombie rather amazing?"

"Aren't you awfully talkative today."

"Ah. It's thanks to your money to buy me drinks."

"『Che』. Well he seems like a good guy so maybe I'll go visit him if I get injured."

At that point in time, not only I, but also Skyros and Basra only thought of Luciel as an eccentric healer.

At that time we had no reason to know that a situation would possibly happen three months later.

In a certain mine we defeated a monster. It was a request so there wasn't any problem.

『Goho Goho』 both Skyros and I were coughing.

In the mine we fought a monster that spat out a mist-like smoke that seemed like it would ignite us if we touched it.

"Both of you we're reaching soon so hang on."

"Don't make such a face. I'm fine."

"Yeah. Like we would die so easily. We'll recover once we get some sleep."

"No, for now we're going to the clinic."

Basra was strangely powerful at that time even though he was a

magician. We obediently went to the clinic.

However, it was easy to imagine what awaited us.

"I won't treat that dog. It will be 15 gold coins for this guy."

"Wha?! There's no way we can pay such an amount."

"I don't care. I'm busy here. If you don't want to then go home."

"Please, is there any other way."

"There's no choice. You can get the money if you sell that dog to the slave dealer."

"Don't fuck with us."

"Then leave."

Thus we were expelled from the clinic.

Skyros and I rested in bed after returning to the inn while Basra went to report to the guild.

I immediately lost consciousness the moment Basra left.

Somehow it felt warm. The sluggish feeling in my body was being taken out. It was such a strange feeling.

"I think it should be fine with this. If it still doesn't get better tomorrow come to the guild a ... ga ... in ..."

"Are you alright ... Thanks kid. Here. 2 silver coins.

"Is it really fine with just this?"

"Yeah. It's his wish."

"What exactly is this healer?"

"An oddball of a healer. I don't know what kind of life he had until now but he's training because he doesn't want to die."

"Can he gain profit with just 2 silver coins?"

"The person himself said 'I'm still inexperienced.'. Well if you feel indebted to him then help him out when he is in trouble."

After saying so, 'Whirlwind' pulled the healer and left the room.

"Basra? Was that 'Whirlwind' just now?"

"Yeah. He brought the guild healer over."

"I see. He said he was inexperienced right? Would my poison state be cured properly?"

" ... Bazzan, I will say this first, if that guy, no if that healer-sama wasn't here you guys would be dead."

"Ah, yeah. Hah? Is that so?"

"When I went to bring 'Whirlwind' and healer-sama over, 'Whirlwind' examined the monster and seems like this time the monster we defeated was a variant of the Gasbus monster. Once the poison is inhaled, without appropriate magic or antidote it can't be cured."

"Hoh. Magic is great."

"I can also use magic but magic by itself is not amazing. It is amazing only if you can correctly use it."

"Huh? What are you trying to say?"

" ... I've told you that if it wasn't for that healer-sama you guys would be dead. How many times do you think he casted healing magic on Skyros and you? He tried casting the detoxification healing magic again again, until the point of magic power depletion but he still continued."

"Is that ... amazing?"

"Normally it wouldn't be surprising even if he fainted. He dealt treatment while dripping blood from clenching his teeth. And it was only for 2 silver coins? Can you imagine it?"

" ... Does it mean he's my lifesaver?"

"That's what I've been trying to tell you. If you ridicule that healer-sama I would doubt your sanity. That's all."

" ... What's that kid called again? Luciel-kun right. I never expected that there would be such a healer."

"Hmm? Have you regained consciousness Skyros?"

"Yeah. I heard a voice calling out hang in there hang in there when I was treated and I felt a warm light chase away the darkness."

"I felt that warm light as well."

"Properly thank the healer-sama the next time we meet him."

"I know."

"Roger that."

The next day, when we went to thank the eccentric healer Luciel, he only said "It's because you didn't give up on living, it is game over when you die." before he went back to battle with 'Whirlwind'.

"Is he a saint/wise man?"

"Looking at his asceticism, he might one day become a founder of the Healer's Guild."

"I'll try to return even a little of the favour I owe Luciel-kun if he meets any trouble. I'll convey that to 'Whirlwind'."

"Yeah. The White Wolf's Bloodline do not forget our obligations."

Thus I, Bazzan and the White Wolf's Bloodline, was thankful that we met Luciel and we rooted for his gradual growth. Three months later we became an A rank party.

When the good-natured Luciel was in a dispute with Botacyl and when he was told to transfer to the church headquarters, we couldn't do anything. But when we were nominated for the escort request, we accepted it for 2 silver coins.

Thanks to 'Whirlwind' who put out the nomination request, we travelled with Luciel to send him to Saint Schull.

With this did we manage to return a little bit of favour? When I was thinking about that Basra opened his mouth to speak.

"If we travel with Luciel, it looks like it would lead to great things."

Following that Skyros also spoke.

"Looks like Luciel-kun really is not obsessed with gold huh."

"It doesn't really matter if we take a slight detour."

We slowly travelled and took 5 days to complete the journey that can be completed in 2 days.

On the way the villages we stopped by didn't have much money and rarely had healers come by.

There were villages that tried to offer him women but he refused with a straight face and thanked them for the meal and bedding. The villagers were dumbfounded.

Here we were desperately trying to endure from laughing. As I thought Luciel is a real oddball.

As I held expectations that Luciel would one day become a big shot, I drove the horse-drawn carriage towards the town of Meratoni.

Chapter 013: The Work At The Guild Headquarters?

After exiting a long corridor, we entered a new building and further climbed another flight of stairs before finally stopping in front of a corner room.

"Here is Lumina-sama's private room. I shall take my leave then."

"Thank you for guiding me here."

After saying my thanks to Granhart-san's attendant who lead me here, I took in a deep breath.

For some reason whenever you visit a woman's room, you'll become slightly nervous.

I took another deep breath and knocked.

After knocking on the door I voiced out.

"Lumina-sama, it is Luciel who you met earlier. Please allow me to visit you."

After I said that, "It is okay to come in." came from within. When I opened the door I noticed that it was a simple ordinary room.

Although I was surprised for a moment, I convinced myself that the torture and interrogation rooms just now was Granhart's hobby.

"Is something the matter?"

Maybe my thoughts appeared in my attitude, she questioned me with a questioning look.

"I just came from a room together with Granhart-dono before coming to Lumina-sama's room ... The gap stunned me for a moment."

I smiled lightly and shrugged my shoulders.

"Fufufu. No wonder. It can't be helped if you came from that room."

Apparently the misunderstanding was resolved and she gave me a smile.

"Do you know the reason why I was transferred to this place ... to this church headquarters?"

"Yup. In short, to receive a warning from Granhart-dono."

"I see. Thank you very much for both this time and when in Meratoni."

"It's fine. I had already received your thanks earlier. At the same time I'm bad with the formalities. Please be at ease."

No no, I am the one that's bad with those formal phrases. While speaking in my mind, I did not realise when I met this person previously, but now I felt that she's definitely not a healer.

"If you insist. By the way ... "

When I was saying until there, I was interrupted by a hand.

"First, have some tea and sit on that chair over there."

"Ah, yes. Thank you."

The structure of the room was 10 tatami mat sized with a floor plan of 2 by 5 tatami mats.

[It's pretty stark huh~]

"You feel that it's stark right?"

I was surprised by the question from Lumina-san who brought tea over fairly quickly.

"I'm sorry."

"No it's fine. This is only a place for me to do paperwork and sleep. I'm not here the majority of time."

"Come to think of it, I was able to learn 「Heal」 a week after we met in Meratoni. When I asked the guild for Lumina-sama's whereabouts to express my thanks, I was surprised when I heard that you had already returned to the headquarters."

"In the end my job is one that requires me to move around quite a bit. Instead of that, this time were you summoned by Granhart? Or did you transfer over?"

"This time I received a letter of appointment for transfer signed with the Pope's name."

"To be from Fluna-sama, it seems like Luciel-kun is considerably excellent."

"No, it's a little different. Actually ... "

I briefly explained the events that happened in Meratoni.

I also included the conversation I had with Granhart-san just now.

"Hmm. I see ... Certainly."

While nodding, Lumina-san posed a question to me with an inquisitive face.

"And so, what would you do now?"

"Hmm ... Regarding that. The truth is, although I came over for the transfer, I completely have no idea what I am supposed to do now."

"Most likely it's up to you. You be carefree ... Speaking of which, you mentioned that just now Granhart-dono called out to you."

"Yes. It seems like Granhart-san was called out due to the Pope's name."

"If that's the case, Luciel-kun's work might involve a little risk."

" ... Really?"

"Yeah. However, there's no doubt that you can expect to be promoted."

"While practicing magic, I do not want to travel. Isn't there somewhere safe that needs Holy magic ... ?"

"You should give up on that. Do you know the purification magic 「Purification」?"

"Ah, yes. I am now able to use that."

"... I see. If that's the case, there's a place where you can safely level and become a priest."

"Somewhere where you don't get slashed by swords, stabbed by spears and suddenly thrown ... If it's a place safer than that I think I can work hard."

"What kind of hell is that? ... Well never mind. Actually, in the basement of the old building of the guild headquarters, the cemetery where the founders were enshrined became a labyrinth several decades ago."

"A labyrinth? Oh. A labyrinth is a place where it is easy to accumulate magic but as the magic accumulates, the hatred and desires of the living is absorbed, giving rise to treasures and monsters. It is a nest for adventurer's who dream of striking a fortune."

"I'm surprised. Weren't you supposed to be ignorant?"

"I studied. Just in case you're wondering, now I know the names of the cities and villages."

"Kukuku. Now that I think about it, it was like that huh. Going back to the topic, it is going to be a job to prevent monsters from

crawling out of the labyrinth by keeping a lookout and thinning out the monsters."

" ... By the way, what monsters appear there?"

"As expected of a graveyard, only undead-type monsters like skeletons, zombies and ghosts appear. Once you use 「Purification」, they will disappear all at once leaving only the magic stone. Because of that the money you get isn't small pocket change but nobody wants to do this job."

"That's why people from the outside are roped in to do the job?"

"Yeah. Normally healers do not train in matters such as combat and the majority of current healers rose up in ranks using gold."

" ... Are there any merits?"

"There are. Anything you pick up in the dungeon belongs to you and you can sell the magic stones. Nobody would complain about you and nobody will snatch from you."

"Ooo. There's also a place to become stronger here."

"If your luck is good you can obtain treasures as well. By selling the magic stones, it is also possible to buy the expert-level spell books. (TL: Spell book ranks for now are beginner → intermediate → advanced → expert)

"If I get bitten by a zombie, would I turn into one as well?"

"What kind of nonsense is that? You might get poisoned but I've never heard of zombification."

"I'm relieved to hear that. ... Seriously."

"The demerit is that the labyrinth is exceptionally smelly. Inconceivably smelly. The smell of the labyrinth clings on to clothes so people will make a disgusted face if you come near them."

"Eh? Something like that is not a problem at all."

Yeah. It's the same as after drinking Object X. Whenever I try to approach Instructor Broad he would say "It stinks" and he would either disappear or hit me.

" ... Are you really all right with that?"

"Yes it's fine."

It's an excellent opportunity for me either way.

"Well it's up to Granhart-dono to decide."

"Yeah."

"Oh I'm sorry but it's about time."

"Oh, somehow I've bothered you for such a long time."

"No it's fine. Is anybody there?"

A few seconds after she called out somebody replied.

"How may I be of service?"

"Take Luciel-dono to Granhart-dono."

"Understood. This way please."

"Thank you for today. There's one thing on my mind, Lumina-sama is not a healer right?"

"You noticed?"

"Yeah, only vaguely though."

"My profession is a paladin."

"That sounds cool."

"Fufufu. Well kind of."

"Well then, if I have the chance I'll come visit again."

"I'll look forward to that."

I left the room.

"Who on earth are you?"

The attendant asked after walking away from Lumina-san's room for a bit.

"What do you mean?"

"Usually Lumina-sama is not the kind of person to laugh nor does she converse for so long."

"I see. Maybe in Lumina-sama's eyes, I'm like a stray dog that she picked up."

"Stray dog?"

"Yeah. Two years ago on the day I became a healer, I left the countryside without any personal identification. Just when I was denied entry into Meratoni city, Lumina-sama came over and

guided me to the Healer's Guild."

"So that's why. ... Wait, you are still seventeen years old?"

"Yes. I'm a seventeen year old greenhorn. I've been transferred to the headquarters so if you see me around please call out to me."

"Okay got it. Oh, I'm Lucy. I'm something like an attendant to Lumina-sama."

"I'm Luciel."

"If there's anything you don't know, you can rely on me."

"Thank you for that. And it's nice to meet you."

"And so why did you come to the headquarters ..."

While we talked about official matters regarding my transfer to the headquarters, somehow we arrived at the topic of Holy Attribute Magic skill level and she complimented me saying "Luciel is amazing."

"Oh, here's Granhart-sama's room. So I guess I'll go now."

"Thank you Lucy-san."

"No problem. See you."

She returned towards the direction of Lumina-sama's room.

『Kon Kon Kon』

"This is Luciel who you met earlier."

"Ah ... enter."

What was with the 'Ah'? Don't tell me he's already forgotten about me.

"Pardon my intrusion."

I switched my mood and turned the doorknob. Once inside I saw a pale faced Granhart-san that looked like he was going to be buried under documents.

"Thank you for your time earlier. I have returned from meeting Lumina-sama."

"Okay. Oh, this is your written appointment. I'll have someone guide you to your room after you're done."

Letter of Appointment

Assigned to the exorcism combat unit, Saint Schull's church Healer's Guild Headquarters.

In consideration of your current A rank, you are ordered to concurrently serve as both a cleric and an exorcist.

"What does this mean?"

"Luciel-dono will be tasked with exorcising undead from a certain place from tomorrow onwards. Your salary will be 20 gold coins every month."

"Hah? 20 gold coins?"

A monthly income of 20 million yen? Is this heaven?

"Yes. Tomorrow is your first day so go to sleep early today. Oh, before that I'll have someone guide you to the dining hall and your room."

"May I request for someone who could guide me to the training field and Adventurer's Guild as well?"

"... Today you will only be guided to the dining hall and your room."

Thus I was guided to the dining hall and my personal room. I placed my luggage in the room built the same as Granhart-san and Lumina-san's room.

Later, after muscle training I went to the dining hall. The chef served me my meal even though he was shocked and exclaimed "You've still have not eaten?". When I returned to my room I took a barrel out from my magic bag and transferred the little remaining Object X into a cup and drank it, and slept after doing some magic training.

Chapter 014: The Undead Labyrinth

Early in the morning, I got up early as usual and headed to the dining hall while trying to ascertain the maze-like passages in the church headquarters.

"Oh, aren't you the new hire. Why are you awake so early?"

I bumped into the obachan (aunty) who served me my dinner yesterday.

"Ah, good morning. I'm Luciel. I'll be in your care from today onwards so nice to meet you."

"Oh dear so polite. I think being a healer at the headquarters is very difficult so good luck."

"Hahaha. Well I'll do my best. Also actually, I'm early because I don't know around when breakfast starts, and I'd like to ask in advance do you know about Object X?"

"No. I have not heard of it. What is it?"

"No worries, it's okay if you don't know about it. Oh, also how can I go to the Adventurer's Guild?"

"Ah~ For individuals below the rank of priests you would need to get a permit to exit the premise, without it you are not allowed to

go out."

"... As expected. So when does breakfast begin?"

"Usually it starts after about two hours later. All the priest-samas here all wake up late."

"... No wonder. If so, is there anywhere like a training field?"

"I think there is but I don't know where it is."

"Is that so ... I understand. I'm sorry that I ended up barraging you with questions. Later is it okay if I ask you to pack bento for me?"

"That is fine but where would you be going to?"

"Well I'm just going to do my job."

"Okay. Don't overdo it too much."

"Hahaha. I'll see what I can do."

I returned to my room to kill time by practicing magic before finally having my meal and placing the prepared bento into my bag, and headed to Granhart's room.

"You've arrived."

Apparently Granhart-san was already waiting and beside him stood a young man that looked slightly older than me.

"Good morning. I'm sorry that I kept you waiting." (Luciel)

"Hahaha. It's okay. At any rate Gran-sama didn't set a specific time to meet." (Jordo)

"That's not the case ... " (Granhart)

"You didn't right. I'm Jordo. Your predecessor."

"Oh sorry. I'm Luciel. From today I will take over your responsibility. Nice to meet you."

"First of all, take this."

Granhart-san forcefully entered the conversation and passed me a white robe.

"That's a unique robe, given to headquarter healers, knight and Healer's Guild healers of above A rank, woven with a holy silver thread making it capable of blocking miasma."

" ... It looks expensive."

"It costs 10 pieces of white gold. Once you put that on, don't do anything foolish that can undermine the authority of the Healer's Guild."

"Certainly."

"Next, I'll pass this to you."

"This card is?"

"With this, you don't need to find me each and every time for permission to leave. I don't have time so absolutely don't give me any trouble after I pass this to you. It is forbidden to bring seriously ill people, children, pet or frankly anybody in to the guild headquarters. If you don't swear to this I won't pass the card to you."

"... I swear."

"Okay. The witnesses are me Granhart and Jordo." (Granhart)

After the simple declaration the card flashed for a moment.

"What was that just now?" (Luciel)

"It was your pledge. If you break your promise, you won't be able to use the card. If that happens, you would be penalised so

beware." (Granhart)

"You'd seriously better don't do so. The church's penalties are unusually severe." (Jordo)

"Understood."

"Jordo, I'll leave the rest to you."

"Understood Gran-sama. Well then, follow me."

Thus in this manner I took my first ride on the magic elevator towards the basement since arriving at to the church headquarters.

"If you walk a bit from here, the shop will be visible."

As Jordo-san said so, we walked towards the light up ahead.

As the elevator was emitting light faintly, I was relieved that I can likely return and I followed behind Jordo-san to enter the room where the light was spilling out from.

"Surprised?"

Jordo-san said so while showing a boyish smile overlooking the room.

It was exactly so.

Similar to how it looks like in games, swords and armour were beautifully decorated and spell books were arranged in a cramped manner.

"Here you can exchange the magic stones from the labyrinth for points. By accumulating points you can exchange it for anything here. You can also exchange for spell books that are only obtainable here. Since there's nobody around at this time, lets immediately open the labyrinth door here."

The moment the door was opened, I was stuck by an oppressive feeling like I've never felt before.

"From here it's already the labyrinth."

I casted 「Aura Coat」.

We approached a flight of stairs just after walking a little.

"The monsters will come out from here. Well just watch." Just like he was going for a walk, in front of the zombie that appeared, the accustomed Jordo-san began chanting.

"By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean

existence to its original path. Purification."

As a result the magic flew towards the zombie, when it hit the zombie the light immediately spread around it and the zombie disappeared, leaving a small red magic stone.

"From today this will be Luciel-kun's job. The undead will flock to the living so please defeat them using 「Purification」."

"If I couldn't use 「Purification」, what did they expect me to do?"

"They would have you memorize 「Purification」 via actual combat. 「Purification」 is not a singular spell but instead made up of multiple Holy waves so please properly defeat them."

"Well then, please return after recovering these magic stones."

After he said that, Jordo-san left the labyrinth.

"Even though it's smelly he didn't have to leave in such a hurry ... Okay. Lets proceed safely."

I equipped the weapons and armour taken out from the bag and put on my robe once again. For the first time since my reincarnation, I began my dungeon attack.

"It's pretty bright in here."

Maybe as a result of transforming into labyrinth, the labyrinth was bright as if it was illuminated by magical tools. Rather than call it a labyrinth or a pseudo-labyrinth, isn't it closer to a training field? It was a place that made people doubt so.

"However, I wish something is done against this putrid odour. Although it is too impossibly smelly for normal people, for me who continued drinking undiluted Object X, it is at the level that I can easily endure."

"I wonder if I should continue while mapping the place out? and ... Zombie discovered. Furthermore I hear multiple of them. Oh dear God, Buddha, ancestors, please lend me your strength."

I began to chant quietly in anticipation of the zombies.

"By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification."

"By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification."

"By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification."

Except, instead of only one I chanted 3 in succession.

Oh man~ real zombies are really too scary. I unconsciously muttered a string of chants.

Well it's the same at first even for the game that requires you to shoot zombies with a gun. But this is not a game.

Without noticing, the zombies disappeared and 4 magic stones rolled onto the ground.

"Eh wasn't there only three of them? Was it because I was nervous? Oh well it doesn't matter. I somehow won anyway."

I picked up the magic stones and immediately opened my status screen first.

"? ... My level didn't rise? Huh? Why?"

I was startled by the fact and involuntarily looked not twice but thrice. Normally you'll level up if you defeat monsters.

I've heard that if you defeat a monster when you are level 1, even if you defeat the goblin of the same rank, your level would rise.

"Damn it. Don't tell me this a training field made using illusions by some sage."

Right at the moment I had that thought, I realised.

"Is this a prank? But if I can get 20 million yen a month like this, I'll just keep using this training field over and over."

Thus I channelled magic power into the sword I received from Broad and either slashed the zombies or grasped their heads and chanted 「Heal」 to eliminate them.

However, "It stinks!!" I used purification magic to remove the smell from my hands.

I passed by any stairs I saw and defeated zombies while roaming around the first level of the labyrinth. To prevent myself from getting lost in the first level, while walking round and round until I got dizzy, I drew the map in my head.

"I screwed up. It would have been great if I brought along parchment, ink and a pen."

The first level was roughly 300 meters square with path widths close to 5 meters which didn't inhibit movement during combat.

While training Holy magic using purification magic, whenever my MP was low I channelled magic power into my sword and slashed zombies with it.

Although magic power was channelled into the sword, MP is only consumed during a slash so MP consumption is only 1-2.

To me who could only be caught by Broad using his full power, I felt that the zombies' movements were too slow and once again determined that this was an illusion, so my shoulders relaxed and I became able use my original movements.

After I continued walking until I determined that I won't get lost anymore, I thought [Maybe I'll proceed to the second floor] and confidently descended into the second floor.

"The second floor is also bright as well. This is this world's equivalent of a test of courage by bringing back the treasure chest but I refuse to be harassed."

I continued to explore around the second floor.

"Ooh. There exist a zombie that can subdue zombies? A ... Ah is that a ball of fire? What was it called ... will-o-wisp? Or was it will-o-the-wisp?"

I decided to test my purification magic infused sword attack on the new monsters.

"Uwah, weak." When I attacked while intentionally restraining myself, the ball of fire was extinguished.

In that fashion I found that the second floor had nothing and after I determined that I won't get lost, I thought to myself [Shall I

have my lunch here].

I took out my bento and Object X and began eating in front of the stairs leading to the third floor.

"Since the air seems bad, I'll cast purification magic 「Aura Coat」 onto the bento as well."

In this manner even when I was having my meals the monsters didn't approach me.

"What was with the "Undead will flock to the living". Jordo-san must have been told so as well by the former person-in-charge."

With my belly filled and after drinking Object X, I explored the third floor in the same manner.

However, I was quite flustered and randomly fired purification spells when I encountered a flock of skeletons. For that reason I was forced to the brink of magic depletion so I thought that some reflection was necessary.

After that I somehow recovered and trained in the third floor, before casting purification magic on myself and escaping from the undead labyrinth.

The fact that this labyrinth was real and had already taken the lives of numerous healers, priests, priest knights and paladins was only known to Luciel a long time from now.

Chapter 015: The Wrongly Pressed Button And The Rumoured Urban Legend

Upon walking out the exit of the labyrinth, purification magic 「Purification」 was suddenly casted on me.

"What are you doing? Is this a prank?"

I was slightly irritated.

"Oh, you are alive. You did not come back even after half a day had passed since you dived into the labyrinth on your first day so I thought that you had become a zombie."

Was this person putting up an act just in case I am a person who hates people who try to deceive me?

I gently tapped Jordo-san's shoulder.

"What's with that expression!? I get it. Don't look at me with that face!"

"Oh no. Is Jordo-san an esper?"

"Erm, what's an esper?"

He couldn't understand me because I used a term from a different

world.

『Kohon/Cough』 Even though I look like this, I honed my martial arts skills in the Adventurer's Guild so I know how dangerous (real) monsters are."

(TL: The () indicates what the speaker meant in his mind. Read without the () to understand what the listener heard.)

"Oh~ Now that you mention it I have heard of such reports."

"I have also understood that if I'm complacent no matter how many lives I have it would not be enough."

"Even so that was your first actual combat right? No matter what (real) zombies are pretty troublesome right?"

"If it's only to that extent I won't be delayed at all. The labyrinth was bright as well."

"Heh~ Luciel-kun is pretty strong. I didn't advance (to the second floor) at all in the first three months."

"Well, I intend to fight reasonably so it's fine. From tomorrow onwards I'll advance (further down below the third floor) little by little."

"Ooh. So promising."

"Oh yeah. Where should I bring this magic stone (illusionary stone) to? To the Adventurer's Guild?"

"No, please get the store there to buy them from you."

"Ah as expected. I knew it had to be so. It would be bad if the Adventurer's Guild knew (The Adventurer's Guild would not buy the stones and we don't want them to know that there is such a training ground)." I looked towards the shop counter.

"That's right. (It would be a huge problem if it was known that there is a labyrinth in the Healer's Guild headquarters.) Wah~ It's a great help that Luciel-kun can quickly grasp the situation."

"No no. Is it fine if I exchange the magic stones for points here."

"Oh Jordo-san. So the newbie is safe."

A young lady who was not here in the morning was at the counter.

"He's fine."

"Thank you for your concern. I am okay because I have slight resistance to such things (horror movies and games)."

"That is amazing"

She praised me while smiling radiantly. I wonder why I felt slightly happy.

"Please pass me the magic stones you've collected today."

She was amiable because of her job.

I knew it.

"Okay."

『Don』Jordo-san and the lady stared with a (slightly?) surprised look at the sound of the rucksack I placed down.

"Then pardon me but please purchase these."

"Amazing. There's really a lot. It is not good to push yourself unreasonably. You only have one life."

"That is right. I understand."

"Well then please pass me your card."

"Card? Do you mean my Healer's Guild card?"

"Ha!? She's referring to the card you received from Gran-sama today."

Woah Jordo-san was revived.

"Ah I see." I handed the card over.

"It will be 4,216P in total. This is an unusual achievement for the first day. It has been a considerably long time since I've seen such earnings. Well then, what would you like to buy?"

"I have no idea what's sold here so I can't say anything."

"Oh I see. Everything here is up for sale. The most expensive is the finest-grade spell book at 1,000,000P. It is a first-class spell book currently at the top of all spell books."

"Hahaha. It will be the distant future when I'll be able to buy that."

"Other than that there are potions as well as items to prevent abnormal status."

"I see. Oh that's right. What about those weapons over there?"

"Those are weapons tempered with silver or holy silver capable of damaging undead. They were all made by dwarves."

"How much do they cost?"

"2,500P each."

"Hah? Why are they so cheap?! That's definitely below the original costs."

"You can say that. Priest knights or paladins don't come down here, whereas healers can't handle such weapons, and even the church can't sell them through contracts so there's no need for them."

"... Even so isn't it still too cheap?"

"While using such weapons you can't chant magic right? Moreover if you're an amateur with weapons you would be surrounded and eaten by zombies."

Eh? But I can chant? Huh? Didn't Instructor Broad explicitly say that it's normal to be able to do so?

"... I see. Do you have a lot of these weapons in stock?"

"I have them piled up like a mountain. At first they seemed to have been sold for 200,000P but now they are just buried in the

warehouse as dead stocks."

Isn't this the effect of 「Great Luck」 for the first time in a long time.

"I would like both a sword and a spear."

Yup. There was no way I wouldn't buy them.

"Wah. The newcomer this time is really a strange child. Yup~. I'll give you a discount since this your first time so it will be 4,000P. That's why don't die okay."

"I will earn even more from tomorrow. I'm Luciel. I will be working hard here from now on so I'll be in your care."

"Okay. I'm Katria. Nice to meet you. Oh yeah. Jordo-san thank you for your hard work until today."

"Eh? Ah, yes."

I wonder what's wrong? I felt that Jordo-san had been feeling down since just now.

Maybe he's shocked that I learnt that the labyrinth was an illusion right on the first day?

Or maybe because he would lose contact with Katria-san?

There's no choice I'll try not to aggravate him today.

In this manner my job as an exorcist ended safely.

I asked for the directions to the labyrinth, the way to return as well as the location of the Adventurer's Guild from the unenergetic Jordo-san.

Then I told him that I'll be returning first and I boarded the elevator.

Once I've ascended using the elevator, I got off at the information counter this time and tucked my robe into my bag before heading straight to the Adventurer's Guild.

"As expected it's pretty close by." I only walked for less than a minute before reaching the Adventurer's Guild.

I headed towards the reception ... no towards the dining hall.

"The architecture is really the same." And so I reached the dining hall.

"Good evening." I called out to the waitress that was not present in Meratoni's Adventurer's Guild.

"Welcome. What would you like to order?"

"Yes. Please give me a barrel of undiluted Object X."

Immediately, silence fell on the lively Adventurer's Guild usually buzzing with noise.

"... Er, erm, could you please repeat your order?"

"Ah, yes. Please give me a barrel of undiluted Object X."

At that moment, a man appeared from the kitchen carrying Object X and he placed it on the table with a 『Don』. "Drink."

[Is this the kind of guy who rushes to drink and cheers(kanpai) others? Well it doesn't matter.]

『GubiGubi』I drank it down as usual.

The person behind me exclaimed "He's a monster."

"Dysgeusia/Taste disorder"

"Isn't that the rumoured masochistic healer?"

"That's an urban legend."

Although the voices all whispered quietly but oi I heard all of that.

"Puha~. Thank you for the meal. Well then could you please prepare this in a barrel?"

"Un ... understood. It's okay as long as you don't intend to misuse it."

"Oh right. Why isn't Object X called Liquid X but Object X even though it's a liquid?"

"I have no idea. Do you have a barrel to put it into?"

"I don't have anything that can fit that in..."

"If we prepare the barrels for you regretfully we'll have to charge you 1 silver coin for 1 barrel."

"Okay then I'll have 3 barrels today."

"Un ... understood."

"It sounded like he said 3 barrels."

"It's a monster."

"Demon race?"

"Not to mention demons even monsters run away from that smell."

"What kind of lifestyle does he have to nonchalantly drink that."

"Maybe an extremely impoverished life ..."

I could totally hear everything but when I sneaked a peak a while ago they all seemed extremely strong.

In addition they all had good equipment so as to not pick a fight with them, I left without refuting them nor did I even look them in the eye.

Immediately Luciel could guess that he won't have a home just like the one he had in Meratoni.

However, Luciel who could finish drinking Object X was whispered in the shadows as a person with taste disorder, or as a sage undergoing penance, or as a hero.

And Luciel who would one day be watched over warmly whenever he came over to visit once a month is but another story.

" ... The 3 barrels have been prepared."

The master carried 3 barrels over with a bitter face.

"Thank you very much. Please prepare another 3 barrels next month as well."

I returned to the guild headquarters while considering what to eat for dinner that day.

Chapter 016: Stagnant Levels And The Constantly Advancing Spirit

Once again Luciel woke up before the morning sun rose up.

"Uwah~. Ah~ sleepy. Nothing seems to be swelling up on my body so it was a hallucination after all."

While doing my stretches, I performed appraisal to check on my magic and fundamental magic practice.

"Ah, 「Chant Shortening」 level went up. And also 「Remote Magic Circle」 would become level I soon."

Although I do not use status check every day, I won't be able to confirm the skill proficiency of Holy Attribute Magic spells that I can't use right now such as 「Area High Heal」 and 「Dispel」 without checking.

"It's great that just yesterday alone I got over 800."

Those that rose were Magic Power Manipulation, Magic Power Control and Holy Attribute Magic but Holy Attribute Magic had grown by far the most.

In terms of skill proficiency, to become level I skill proficiency needs to reach 1000. Later levels would double in skill proficiency requirement.

Level I → 1000 Level II → 2000

Level III → 4000 Level IV → 8000

Level V → 16000 Level VI → 32000

Level VII → 64000 Level VIII → 128000

Level IX → 256000 Level X → 512000

With regards to increasing skill proficiency, depending on the level of magic as well as success in triggering the magic, skill proficiency would rise by at most 5.

For example, in the case of a level I 「Heal」, together with having a target to heal, only by successfully activating the image, magic power control and magic power operation would skill proficiency rise by 5.

Upon reaching level II doing the same thing would give 4, level III would give 3, level IV would give 2 and level V and beyond would give 1.

I read spell books repeatedly, while focusing on 「Magic Circle」 that can trigger magic by chanting and chant shortening, I piled on self-study day-by-day.

For magic skill proficiency, as long as the magic is triggered it will rise. Seeing indicators of growth, I suddenly felt motivated and reach a state of having the best condition.

"If I continue like this, it will become level VIII in half a year. The aim is counter stop by 20 years old!!" (TL: Kansuto/Counter stop in Japanese gaming terms refer to when the counter reaches max and can't continue increasing.)

I went to the dining hall after completing my morning training.

"Good morning. I'd like a heap of servings today as well."

"Ara Luciel-sama, good morning."

"Please stop that. It's fine with just Luciel. Being referred to as -sama somehow makes my shoulder stiff."

"You are strange after all."

The aunt laughed while saying so and served me a large serving.

"Please prepare a bento for me today as well. The serving size can be the same as yesterday."

"Ha~ please don't push yourself too hard."

"I'm fine. My current lifestyle is paradise compared to before (encountering the revolving lantern once a day)." (TL: Revolving lantern = He's referring to seeing his life flash by as he almost dies)

"It's okay then if that's the case."

While I was taking my meal, I looked back upon hearing "Luciel" and saw Lucy-san there.

"Ah, Lucy-san good morning."

"Morning. Wait, I've heard that you have been assigned to be an exorcist?"

"Yeah. You've got the news so quickly."

"Are you alright? I've heard that (combat) it's quite harsh."

"There's no problem at all (besides it's only horror illusions)."

"I see. Since Lumina-sama is worried as well, if anything comes up that we can help with please let us know."

"Thank you. Ah, in that case, could you please tell me where can I buy parchment, pen and ink?"

"You can find those in abundance in the supplies warehouse."

"In that case please tell me where is the warehouse."

"Okay. Before that will it be better if we finish our breakfast?"

"Of course."

In that manner, I talked with Lucy-san, while she was drawn to the talk about my life in the Adventurer's Guild, we finished our meal. After that, I was taught the location of the supplies warehouse and while carrying large amounts of parchment, pen and ink, I headed to the Undead Labyrinth.

『Guooooooooo』

"Shut up. By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification."

While checking the passage I've memorised yesterday, I drew the map on a piece of parchment.

I walked while defeating illusionary (under his impression) zombies and properly picking up magic stones (illusionary stones).

Spending around 1 hour for one floor, by 3 hours I've reached the fourth floor.

"Well then, what kind of monsters will appear now~"

By now, within my heart, I had completely dived into the labyrinth like I was playing a game.

Due to that "Despite not my forte, I'd like to try dual wielding a short spear similar to those used by Gundam in my left hand and a one-handed sword in my right, if Instructor Broad saw this, I can only imagine the future of him rushing towards me to slash me in anger."

Currently, I explored while holding a thick lance in my left hand which can double up as a shield using it's short cross guard, and a one-handed sword in my right hand.

"Well if I gained a bad habit Instructor Broad will thoroughly fix me so I'll play around without disrupting my fundamentals."

I drew the map wherever there were good visibility and proceeded with the feeling of exploration. The monsters that appeared on the fourth floors were zombies as well but they wandered about while dragging swords, however their movements were obvious when they came closer so I didn't have a tough time at all.

In this manner I finished drawing the maps until the fifth floor and my second day's worth of exploration came to an end.

Today's earnings was 5372P, even more than yesterday so Kartia-

san was worried and told me "Truly, don't push yourself too excessively".

"It's the beginning floors so I have no problem at all. Is it a problem after all if I earn too much (the budget of the headquarters would suffer)?"

"There's no such thing. Instead I am thankful for it."

"If that's the case (by doing so Kartia-san would remain employed?) I'll do my best."

"Oh yeah, what would you like to buy today?"

"Nothing, please accumulate my points. I aim to buy that spell book but if I struggle in battle I'll buy something."

"I understand. Please do your best."

"Yes. Thank you."

Thus the second day of labyrinth exploration ended.

During dinner I met Granhart-san, he asked me about my condition and I answered that there were no particular problems.

"Is that so. If that's the case then it's fine. Also for your salary, it

would be credited into your Healer's Guild account at the beginning of each month. You can verify that at the reception counter on the first floor so if necessary confirm it there."

After only telling me that, Granhart-san left the dining hall.

"He waited here just to convey that to me, I'm gradually beginning to understand that guy's character."

After that, I ate my dinner alone as per usual, drank Object X and practiced magic before sleeping.

In the morning the next day, I began exploring but I found that traps were planted from the sixth floor onwards.

"... What is with this accuracy."

I accidentally stepped on the switch on the sixth floor.

Immediately an arrow flew out from the wall, passing 2 meters right in front of me and disintegrated when it hit the opposite wall.

"Is this implying "These kind of traps will appear from here on out, tehe~" Is it that sort of notice?"

The monsters were as usual, zombie archers that approach closely even though they held a bow and arrow, and 『Kara kara』

zombie knights dragging they sword.

Ball of fires casting fireballs that do not even reach 10 km/hr with long cast times.

"I think that with these, even if I'm surrounded I won't die."

To think that this would become a flag, the me at that time was not aware at all. (TL: In Japanese games this refers to a death flag or a sentence you say which leads to a deadly situation.)

Since traps began to appear from the sixth floor onwards, I properly recorded down the map of the area while exploring.

While carefully examining my movements, I realised that as one descends down a floor, the number of monsters increases and today's exploration ended with only reaching the sixth floor.

Today as usual I accumulated my points, ate dinner, drank Object X and practiced fundamental magic.

"Somehow I feel that my body's condition is getting better as the days pass by. Don't tell me!! Status open ... I should have known."

I remained securely fixed at level 1.

"Oh well it's fine. I understand. However, my status are growing little by little. I'll go with the spirit of constantly advancing."

In this way after training, I sulked in bed and slept.

Some kind of event happened. Unlike excitement like that uneventful days passed by. I finished fully exploring up to the tenth floor in 10 days.

Although there was only 1 trap in each floor, I became somewhat cautious and there were many monsters which caused the delay in exploration.

The monsters were skeletons but skeleton knights equipped with a sword and shield and skeleton archers were spawned, the ball of fires also evolved into ghosts.

Also, as impossible as it sounds, under the command of the zombie leader, they attacked together in a group. I was surprised by that.

"Nevertheless purification magic is way too strong. It's like a cheat magic."

That's right. Just by chanting purification magic 3 times, all the 20 monsters neatly became magic stones.

In this manner I safely finished exploring but "That is definitely a boss room."

Thinking of what's behind the door in the tenth floor, while feeling nervous for my first boss battle I had set the goal of clearing it without taking any damage.

"Who or what would come out, are there no hints~. Oh just nice Jordo-san is here."

I caught Jordo-san who came to the dining hall for dinner and asked him about the boss room.

"What appears in that boss room?"

"Boss room? What is that?"

"Ah~ The place that looks like it has strong monsters."

"Ah~ah. You mean like those who attack together in a group (zombie leader group)?"

"Eh (within the boss room) they attack in a group?"

"Yeah. Anyway, you've already reached until there? I only reached there right before I passed on the responsibility of being an exorcist to you."

"Thanks for the compliment. Thank you for the information. With this I can think of a strategy."

"Mmm~ Well I'm glad that I could help."

Thus while I misunderstood, I decided to rush into the boss room at the tenth floor. (TL: Jordo was referring to the zombie leader commanded group and he has not seen the boss room before so it's a huge misunderstanding XD)

Chapter 017: Complacency And The Threat Of The Boss Room

"Body condition...good. Magic power...good. Equipment...good."

As usual after magic training and after I had my breakfast and that, I fired myself up.

I nicknamed the Undead Labyrinth, Smelly.

Thinking back to then, I wonder if it is rare that there is someone like me who could endure the smell and explore as an exorcist.

If this was a job that all newcomers had to complete, then I wonder if I completely cleared the labyrinth in the shortest time wouldn't there be something like a luxurious reward.

Because of that thought, I felt excited with desire and ended up waking up earlier than usual.

Yesterday, I thought that it would be better to have more options during battle so from the accumulated 10 days worth of around 90,000P, I spent 50,000P to buy a holy silver bow with 20 silver arrows, even though I'm not accustomed with using them, and stuffed them into my magic bag.

Currently within my magic bag, I had the sword I received from Instructor Broad which magic could be easily channelled into

(Luciel had not noticed that it's a mithril sword), a holy silver one-handed sword, a holy silver short spear, 4 barrels of Object X, a holy silver bow and a quiver holding the silver arrows.

"After I stuff this bento into the magic bag, it will be full. Once I get my salary I'll try to get a new one with greater capacity, although I don't know how much it would cost. Well then let's go."

I set foot into the Undead Labyrinth.

I spent about 10-20 minutes exploring each floor before taking a break in front of the boss room at the tenth floor.

"Jordo-san said that they would group up. It also depends on the number of enemies but I will start with releasing purification magic and use the sword and spear to defeat the remaining enemies. If it becomes dangerous I'll use purification magic again. Yeah, it's simple but because I'm running solo this is fine."

Either way this is just an illusion, this Undead Labyrinth is just a training ground for newcomers.

In such a manner I underestimated the boss room, before rushing in I placed my ear against the boss room. However I didn't hear any sound coming from it.

"I wonder what kind of monster will appear here? Ah, to give myself a boost, I'll enter after drinking."

I took out a barrel and drank Object X to spur myself.

"But seriously Object X is amazing to be able to repel monsters and undead. And the person who made the magic item that causes people to experience this illusionary odour is not bad as well. Well then, let's move on."

Within the tenth floor, I who opened the door of the boss room experienced the true horror of monsters.

『Gyiiiiiiiiii』 The rusted iron doors echoed as I opened it. I ignored the sounds and looked, realising that the inside of the room was dark.

"I don't need such a movie set production atmosphere though."

I proceeded with my weapons poised. 『BAAN』 Suddenly, the doors slammed shut with immense force.

However, I expected this development and did not shift my line of sight facing ahead.

At the same time the door slammed shut, the dimly lit room became as bright as the labyrinth and the monsters all appeared at once.

"Oi oi, this number is way beyond my expectations."

There was a horde of monsters as far as the eyes could see.

The boss room was roughly 30 meters squared, within the room there were zombie and skeleton knights and archers, ghosts and Will O Wisps, basically all the enemies that I had fought until now appeared.

Although, it would not be a serious problem if it was only that.

It's just that, although I didn't intend to drop my guard and didn't feel any signs, with my back against the door, in front of me from left to right all 180°, the air was flooded with ghosts and balls of fire and I was totally surrounded.

[Although this is nerve-wrecking, it is not a big deal. Up to this point I've been anxious but somehow it is going to be fine.]

I immediately braced myself and began chanting purification magic.

【By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.】

But, nothing happened.

On the contrary, "I can't evoke magic power?". This spurred my confusion.

None of the undead monsters missed my dilemma and they all started an all out attack towards me.

Since coming to this world, I encountered my first desperate predicament.

I brandished the sword and spear held in my hands while channelling magic power through them. Without any form or stance.

Consider this. Up until now I used my weapons to defeat small numbers and used purification magic to battle large groups.

Instead, now monsters are rushing towards me from all around and even from above and I can't even use magic. Indeed even though this is an illusion it is terrifying.

"Shit shit shit, stay away."

While whining like a kid, I desperately brandished my sword and spear.

"Don't tell me this is a magic sealing room. Damn it~ Do they really not want to hand over the luxurious prize so much. But this is all due to my complacency. I am neither the protagonist of a story nor am I a genius. I didn't gather enough information. This is all my own fault. You are a weakling. What's with the smug behaviour. Damn it."

While feeling disgusted with my own carelessness, I frantically defeated monsters with the weapons in both hands.

"Chii, it hurts even though it's an illusion. Is this the other world's version of illusionary pain? It hurts, who was it!! The one who scratched me ... It hurts, I'm telling you it hurts. Don't bite me. Ugh I'm getting angry."

I began running while pouring magic power into the sword and spear and brandishing them.

I failed my goal of winning without any injuries. However, Instructor Broad's training was more painful and far scarier.

I swung my sword "Sei" , received attacks with my spear "Too naive", and slowly reduced the number of enemies.

[So this is a boss stage. If this was reality, my knees would buckle and it would be checkmate.]

Without thinking that this is reality, so as to not game over, I aimed to clear the boss room and get the luxurious prize. Converting that desire into power, I concentrated on the enemy in front of me and brandished the weapons in both hands.

I had no idea how much time passed by. Thanks to the excellent armour, all the attacks I received resulted in wounds here and there but they were all minor wounds.

Even though I defeated and defeated monsters, like a spring more sprung up in their place, the numbers did not reduce at all. But I desperately ran to not get surrounded and defeated monsters to create space.

Would it be endlessly like this? Just as I thought so, I had defeated all the undead and the floor was covered with magic stones.

"HaaHaaHaa"

I was so exhausted that it was tough to even remain standing.

My stamina and magical power was close to my limit. I was in such a state that if Instructor Broad commanded me to "Run!", I would still run but would without a doubt fall flat on my face after running for a little.

"Even so, I'm grateful to had studied under Instructor Broad. Well then, although it's tedious I'll pick up the magic stones and apply recovery magic after leaving this place...?!"

I had a bad feeling and dived forward before rotating around. As I did so, 『DoooooNN』 something tremendous fell on to the place I was standing before.

From the ceiling, I felt a tremendous blood thirst that I had never felt until now directed towards me. I looked up at the ceiling.

"Oi oi, that fight just a while ago was not the boss fight? Is it such a luxurious reward? The Healer's Guild headquarters is surprisingly stingy? Unless ... I'm just weak after all ..."

What appeared was an undead wearing pure white robes holding an expensive looking cane encapsulated with tremendous magical power. It was even wearing a crown.

"Oi oi. Why is it a Wight? The staple of Fantasy is supposed to be Wraiths!!"

I had no idea if those words annoyed it but at the very next moment, it gathered magical power at once in the cane. At the same time I felt a heightened sensation, black light began emitting from the Wight.

Compared to the enemies I've faced until now, the speed of the black light was clearly on a different level ... No, it differed by way too much.

I was unable to avoid the unexpected speed and my right thigh was slightly grazed by it. Right ... Just a graze resulted in the painful feeling of being burnt running through my body.

"Ugh. 【O Lord I offer my magical power to recover this person, Heal】Damn it, why isn't my magic activating. To only restrict my magic, that's too cowardly."

That's right. I could not activate any magic.

"I refuse to die until I clear the boss stage and receive my bonus."

I was already completely disoriented, I had confused the prize from clearing the boss room with the bonus I received during my salary man days.

Towards the Wight readying to release darkness magic at me, I threw my magic power channeled spear at it with full force.

The Wight evaded greatly without unleashing it's magic. That action seemed to say that it would hate it if I approached it and that it was scary.

The moment I saw that, I decided to go with a large gamble.

Chapter 018: Conclusion To The Boss Battle And Negotiations With The Pope

I plunged my hand into the magic bag worn like a shoulder bag under my church robe and took out the holy silver bow and quiver.

"Prepare to meet your doom" I drew the bow.

『Buooooo』 Releasing what sounded like a cry, I stopped the menacing Wight by drawing the bow.

I shot an arrow towards the Wight who began to chant magic as if trying to escape from its numbed state.

Immediately I drew the next arrow and paused.

『Gyoguguoooo』 The Wight screamed in anger.

Maybe it was infuriated because I interfered with its magic, or by the arrow that hit its robe, or maybe both but I felt its thirst for blood swell up.

"Just hurry up and chant your next magic."

While spewing provocations, I recovered my magic power and stamina.

It was good that I endured Instructor Broad's style of teaching.

I'm really thankful so after I get my salary I'll send him something.

I shot the second arrow while thinking about such a thing.

While remaining in a state of tension, after releasing the 13th arrow I decided to act on the intuition that I should begin moving at full force soon.

Katria-san said that magic cannot be used together with weapons because it is necessary to concentrate on an image when casting magic.

I was unclear whether the same phenomenon occurred in the undead but I am truly glad that it gave me a hint.

I believe that the Wight had reached its limit in hostility towards me and exuded a tremendous thirst for blood.

If it was a normal old man, I would not be surprising if it's blood vessels burst. It was expressing a look of hatred of such an extent.

"To have visible blood vessels popping out of your forehead, you must be dreadfully angry. However when somebody has been angry for more than 15 minutes, without any new stimulant to spur the rage, he would be too tired to continue feeling angry. Ah~ah. I forgot you are a monster."

Just like that I repeatedly provoked it while taking deep breaths, looking for a chance.

After running the simulation in my brain multiple times, I ran towards the Wight at full speed after I released the 17th arrow.

The Wight tried to avoid the arrow as if it would hate to dirty its robe, but I had closed in on it so it began to gather magic power instead using the cane in an attempt to cast magic. Without overlooking that, I shot the remaining 3 arrows towards the Wight, causing the accumulated magic power gathered in the cane to explode.

I extracted the sword I received from Instructor Broad from within the magic bag, poured every available magic power I had left into the sword, advanced the last remaining step between us and, slashed.

I slashed the Wight. It was a clean cut from the left shoulder to the right flank.

However, a Wight is a high-ranking undead. It would shoot magic and steal the lives of naive people who turn their backs to it ... or not.

"I definitely felt feedback from the cut. But the guy who made this place is a devil. Of course I know that at the very least it is not dead yet."

I turned around, picked up the short spear and channelled magic power into it before running towards the Wight and throwing the spear with full force.

As I further pushed the short spear that penetrated its body, I rotated my body around and held the sword in my left hand with both hands and sent its head flying.

『Gugyaaaaa』 The flying head cried out and vanished like smoke.

What remained was a set of robes, cane and necklace, as well as a magic stone several times larger and denser compared to those left behind by undead until now.

"Alright~. Ouch that hurts. 【O Lord I offer my magical power to recover this person, Heal】"

With the boss now absent, I was wrapped by a pale light as usual when I chanted heal.

"Both games and the illusionary labyrinth in this other world work the same way huh."

I cleaned my body using purification magic and also casted 「Recover」 just in case.

"With this I should be fine from curses and abnormal statuses. Well then ..."

I used 「Middle Heal」 to treat my wounds and left my inflamed muscles and fatigue to naturally recover.

"It would be too pitiful if I showed how weak I am the next time I see Instructor Broad."

I whipped my sluggish body to recover the magic stones scattered throughout the room, and purified the remaining robes, necklace and cane with purification magic just in case.

After I completely picked up everything, 『Gogogooooo』 Suddenly the earth tremored and a descending path appeared.

"EH?! There's more? But I've had my fill already." I stared at the stairs leading down towards the lower floor for a while.

"I'll be back." I ran towards the door and prayed. 『Gyiiii』 The door opened safely.

"I really panicked for a moment there because I do not have any magic tool to return nor did I memorise any magic to do so."

"Well then what shall I do now. Four barrels of Object X, the sword I received from Broad-san, the bento box from oba-chan ... there's no way I'm going to leave these behind. That's for sure. First, I'll definitely take the three items I obtained from clearing the stage ..."

The holy silver sword, spear, bow and quiver, I could fit everything into the magic bag except for one item.

"Wait, there's no problem if I just wear the sword? Now that I have my peace of mind my stomach is empty so let's have lunch."

As usual I used 「Aura Coat」 and 「Purification」 on the bento and attacked it with gusto and also drank Object X. "Ah, I forgot to drink Object X before entering."

Today was truly tiring. I went up the stairs and escaped from the Undead Labyrinth.

Upon exiting the labyrinth Katria-san was at the counter.

"Ah Katria-san good afternoon."

"Ara, it is rare that you return at this time."

"Yeah. Today I received some damages."

"There are some days when you are not accustomed eh."

"No~ it's more of a feeling that my complacency was doused."

"If that's the case then might today's yield be low?"

"No instead it might be greater than usual. Moreover today I would like to see the point conversion up until the end?"

"I see that you are curious. Well then place your rucksack here."

『Don』 The Wight magic stone was situated right at the top of the rucksack.

"Wha ... What is this?"

"Ah. There is the boss room at the tenth floor right? There were hordes of undead and furthermore magic could not be used. I was panicking like crazy. I somehow defeated them but then a Wight wearing a crown appeared, flew into the air and released magic towards me. I thought that I was going to die (game over)."

Incidentally, I thought of getting the cane and necklace appraised at the Adventurer's Guild but I had no idea who the items belonged to in the first place so I decided to ask Katria-san.

" ... Why did you do something so reckless?" Eh the usual warm fuzzy aura had disappeared?

"I didn't intend to be reckless. I had no idea that thing was there, let alone that magic could not be used there. Nobody told me that."

" ... You didn't receive any prior explanation?"

"Yeah. It is only the 11th day since I've been assigned here and it is the job of an exorcist to dive into the labyrinth."

"That is ... right. Erm do you have time after this?"

"Yeah. I'm feeling tired today so I planned to go back anyway."

"If that's the case I have somewhere I would like to go together with you. Do you mind accompanying me?"

"Yeah. Sure."

"Well for the today's points, it is 108,914P." Eh?

"Erm, I feel that the digits are wrong?"

"Nope, it is correct."

"Is that so." So that was a bonus character after all.

"Oh yeah you said you had something you wanted to show me?"

"Yeah. I could not appraise it at that moment so I used purification on the equipment left behind by the Wight after it disappeared after I defeated it."

As I spoke while taking back my card, immediately Katria-san's face was right in front of me.

"Show it to me!!" I found that it was really scary to be face-to-face

with a beauty.

"Th ... then firstly it is this robe. Next is this necklace and lastly this cane."

I slowly and carefully handed the items one by one to the counter.

" ... Put those back into your bag and come with me immediately."

The next instant, the usually inactive Katria jumped over the counter and flew towards the elevator.

"Hurry!!"

"Yes."

I had not digested the situation and just chased after Katria-san.

"Oh, isn't it Katria-san and Luciel-dono. Where are you two going in such a hurry?" Although Jordo-san directed a question towards us "Jordo-san we are currently busy. Excuse us." A slightly blue-faced Jordo-san gave way to us.

"I'm sorry. I do not understand the current situation as well." I only told him that and continued to chase after Katria-san.

I was seized with uneasiness as I walked. That's because a little while ago I entered an elevator I thought to be forever unrelated to me which was off-limits to all except for related personal.

Passing by the area for priest knights and paladin, the elevator rose beyond the area for priests and for bishops above them and for cardinals above them. (TL: For now the church hierarchy is Cleric → Priest → Bishop → Cardinal → Archbishop → Pope. Don't know if priest knights and paladins are within the same hierarchy.)

This was absolutely something that I would not ride usually and definitely something that I should not ride.

During this time Katria-san didn't say a single word. She just kept walking towards her destination, we once again rode down an elevator to stop in front of a room designated for the Pope which was above the Archbishop in rank.

Katria-san knocked "Your holiness, this is Katria. I wish for you to examine a matter of great urgency."

"Permission granted. Enter."

Although there were many maids present, they did not look at her, instead they directed puzzled and dull gazes at me.

Just like those that often appear in stories, something separated the audience, making it such that the Pope's face was not visible from where I stood.

"Welcome Katria. I do not know the other person, what did you come for?" The owner of the voice sounded young, and was surprisingly a woman's voice which sounded mysterious.

"Yes. This person is the new exorcist who inherited the responsibility of the exorcist the other day. He entered the labyrinth as per his responsibility and has defeated a tremendous number of undead."

"Hoh. But I doubt that is all?"

"Yes. Today he fought with a Wight in the main room at the tenth floor. He was caught unaware and even had his magic sealed. And he splendidly brought back the equipment that the Wight had. Upon appraisal, I came here to make sure that it was not a false report." This didn't seemed like the usual Katria-san.

"Ok. I permit a direct answer. What is your name?"

"I am Luciel."

"Well then Luciel. Take out the equipment you brought back."

"Yes. However, since there was a possibility that there is a curse, I had activated purification magic. Please be understanding regarding that."

"Ok."

I passed the three items to the maid that came to my side.

" ... I thought it was impossible, but it really is. Isn't this very robe Ozanario's Robe that had went missing 12 years ago. And the Necklace of Spirits and Cane of Magic Disruption. You've done well to bring them back."

Somehow aren't they all great rare items?

"The Necklace of Spirits has the effect of halving all magical power consumed when using magic, the Cane of Magic Disruption not only spreads your own magic power and disturbs others from using magic as long as it is in a narrow space, it is a powerful cane that can trigger powerful magic by gathering the diffused magical power."

What's with that cheat weapon.

"I would like to have these items."

It was probably absolutely impossible to refuse this. That's because the person beside me won't refuse. 『Bin Bin』 She was emanating such an aura. Okay then. From here on I'll fire up my acting skills cultivated from business.

"I imagine you feel fond of the items. They even have such amazing capabilities. It is even to the extent of no matter how

much it would cost to get them. I understand. I will yield."

"Ok. Thanks for the trouble."

"It is for you the Pope. However, I have an impolite wish. The truth is I am troubled by the small capacity of my magic bag during my explorations. Because of that, could I request for one that can hold many items?"

"Oh, do not fret about such a thing. Instead of a magic bag, I'll give you a magic bag (rucksack). The insides of the bag is a different space so it stops the progression of time. In addition you will know whatever is within the bag, and the capacity is about the size of this room. (TL: Basically I think his current magic bag is the type of sling bag you see all around, and the Pope is offering him a travelling backpack size bag. I will continue to use magic bag to refer to it because it is more intuitive. Just keep in mind the magic bag capacity increased.)

"Is it okay for me to have such a thing?" I mean this room is up to thirty tatami mat sized. ... I understand. It was the Pope who made that bag. If not such a thing would not normally be given.

"It is fine. In fact this helps me even more. Also, if you encounter anything else when you dive into the labyrinth come here along with Katria. Take the reward. Katria will pass you the magic bag tomorrow. Take it. I am indebted to you. Well then that is all."

Katria-san and I exited with our heads lowered.

"Luciel-kun you have guts."

"Eh? Is that so? But I was considerably tense?"

"Really? Normally you wouldn't be able to appear modest while requesting for compensation in front of the Pope."

"... Was I too impudent?"

"Fufufu. I think you were fine. Because you were able to appropriately discern the situation that she was so satisfied that she even gave you the magic bag. Be at ease." She told me so but I could not have a peace of mind.

We returned together to a place which I was familiar with and we bid farewell.

Thus at my very first boss fight I obtained a cheat item.

Chapter 019: In Order To Become Stronger, Invitation To Join The Training Of The Paladin Corps

Name: Luciel

Job: Healer V (1↑)

HP: 420

Age: 17

MP: 160

LV: 1

ST: 180

STR: 73 (31↑)

INT: 108 (36↑)

VIT: 111 (50↑)

MGI: 107 (43↑)

DEX: 76 (29↑)

RMG: 100 (46↑)

AGI: 73 (19↑)

SP: 0

Magic Aptitude: Holy

【Skills】

「Appraisal—」 「Throwing IV」(1↑) 「Great luck—」 「Dismantling II」
「Taijutsu V」 「Danger Perception IV」 「Magic Power Control VII」
「Footwork IV」(1↑) 「Magic Power Manipulation VII」 「Parallel
Thinking II」(1↑) 「Holy Magic VII」

「Sword Mastery II」(1↑) 「Meditation V」 「Shield Mastery I」
「Concentration VII」(1↑) 「Spear Mastery II」(1↑) 「HP Recovery IV」
「Archery I」 「MP Recovery VI」 「Chant Shortening IV」(1↑) 「Stamina
Recovery V」 「Chant Termination I」

「HP Increased Rate of Growth VI」(1↑) 「MP Increased Rate of
Growth VI」(1↑) 「ST Increased Rate of Growth VI」(1↑) 「STR
Increased Rate of Growth VI」(1↑) 「VIT Increased Rate of Growth
VI」(1↑) 「DEX Increased Rate of Growth VI」(1↑) 「AGI Increased Rate
of Growth VI」(1↑) 「INT Increased Rate of Growth VI」(1↑) 「MGI
Increased Rate of Growth VI」(1↑) 「RMG Increased Rate of Growth
VI」(1↑)

「Poison Resistance VI」 「Weakness Resistance VI」 「Paralysis
Resistance VI」 「Seal Resistance VI」 「Petrification Resistance VI」
「Disease Resistance VI」 「Sleep Resistance VI」 「Blunt Damage
Resistance II」 「Charm Resistance II」 「Illusion Resistance I」 「Curse
Resistance VI」 「Mental Resistance I」

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10)

「God of Destiny's blessing」(Increased SP acquisition)

Adventurer's Guild: E rank

Healer's Guild: A rank

「It really is still level 1. I also didn't grow much ... Eh my status
increased across the board ... Wait, isn't the increase too much? All

of it increased by 1.5 times in the span of 10 days.」

After returning yesterday, I started a one-man reflection meeting for a long time. I organized the reasons why I was conceited into bullet points but became even more depressed when it didn't even fit into a single A4 sized parchment.

As for the easy to understand reflections points, although I knew that it was right before the boss fight, because I didn't put the various defense up barrier magic and couldn't use spells, I ended getting flustered and treated my sword and spear as blunt weapons.

「When a sword hit a wall or floor or a hard place, the blade will be dulled at the spot where it hit, as for the lance, rather than becoming distorted, it even became slightly bent. If instructor Broad found out, I'll definitely get scolded by him and see the revolving lantern again. And Grulga-san will definitely make me drink a whole cask of object X...」 (TLN: It seems in prev chapter, the barrel thing was a hand-sized carriable barrel, while this one refer to a wine-sized barrel)

That might sound like paranoia, but there are several accidents in the past where that happen and I can't defy them at all. Well, they are actually good people, so it's fine.

「Should I ask if I can join the training for the Paladins and the Priest Knights? Oh that's the end for today's morning training. A~ So hungry」

After finishing the morning training, I went to the dining hall.

「Luciel」 when I was walking towards the dining hall, I heard Lucy calling me and when I turned around I saw Lucy-san, Lumina-san, and another girl.

「Good morning. Lumina-sama, Lucy-san. Also, nice to meet you, good morning. I am Luciel. 」 I greeted them.

「Good morning Luciel-kun」

「Morning」

「Good morning. My name is Kuina and I'm assigned to Lumina-sama's unit」

「Once again, nice to meet you. Kuina-san. Is everyone on the way to breakfast as well?」

「Yes. We always take our breakfast after we finish with our morning training」

「I see. I was slightly later than usual today so we actually met each other」

「By the way, It has only been 10 days but I heard that you are now being listed as a veteran」

「A~ about that..... I've been reflecting on that since yesterday」

「Fumu. If it's alright with you, tell me about that. How about we have breakfast together?」 Oh, it's only morning and Great Luck has been triggered?

「Yes. By all means, please」 and with that the four of us moved to get breakfast.

While eating the breakfast, I told them everything about the exorcising and the blunder that happened yesterday.

「... Just what in the world did you think you were doing?」 and Lumina-san was shocked,

「Are you looking for death?」 and Lucy-san with eyes full of scorn looked at my way.

「It's stupidity. You were being lucky. Normally you would have been dead」 even with this being our first meeting, Kuina spoke with words full of venom.

「A~ And here I thought you have graduated from being ignorant after much troubles, you went and did something so reckless this time」

「For what it's worth, I've been doing a one-person reflection for a half day since yesterday , so please forgive me this time. My spirit is already crumbling right now」

「So concretely what do you want to do now?」

「I would like to return back to Meratoni to train myself back so I can become stronger」

「As a general rule for healers, the transfer from the headquarters is not accepted unless a written appointment comes out」

「If you want to train, I think it can be arranged」

「Eh? Really?」

「Yes. I think it will be hard for a healer, but it is possible to join in on the training of the paladins. However, there won't be individual instructions」

「... Could I request that it doesn't interfere with my exploration of the labyrinth?」

「Fumu. Then once a week, there would be an intense training on every day of fire」

「Yes. I look forward to training with you (Yoroshikuonegaishimasu)」 and with that, it has been decided that I will participate in the paladin's training.

After receiving the lunch box and returning to my room as usual, I drank object X and walked towards the Undead Labyrinth

(Temp).

Because I learned illusion resistance, I already knew that the true form of the labyrinth itself was an illusion (was what I thought).

As for the exploration from today onward, it should not be a tough fight until the boss on the 20th floor so I blazed through.

However, the exploration was really time consuming, I plan to fix my self-conceited attitude before starting to fight the boss on the 20th floor..... for the sake of the awesome reward.

Thus before I entered the labyrinth I decided to take a look at the shop first, but Katria-san was not here today, since that's the case I just started the exploration of the Undead Labyrinth (temp).

As I walked, I cast the purification magic. However, unlike yesterday, the monsters seemed to disappear completely when I had a clear image of the chanting and purification.

「A~ so nervous. It'll be annoying if a Wight appear again. 」 I cast all of my buff magic in front of the boss room. And the door that I opened closed after I entered inside.

「There really are a lot of them. I should fire the spells」 When I start to pray and cast the purification magic, most of them got erased.

「Weak!？」 With just 3 cast of purification and several attacks, the

battle in the boss room finished in about a minute.

With an accompanying sound GOOOOOON the stairs appeared 「Will it be this noisy each and every time this happens ?」 and after descending the stairs, I went back to the 10th floor and confirmed that the monsters on the boss room has indeed revived.

Before starting the 11th floor exploration I took a small break inbetween floors.

「If the person who made this was the Pope, the Pope must be a reincarnated person」 Up until the 10th floor the surface of the wall was white. But starting from this point it's red.

Well, with this it's possible to determine which floor I am on in units of 10 floors.

「SEI, TAA, WAAAA. 」 Stabbing the spear, pulling it back and then thrusting the sword. Ending with a high kick towards the zombie's head which made the head bend in strange direction, and severing it's head with the magic channeled sword.

「As expected, It really is better to be prepared to use Taijutsu. Nevertheless, it's zombies again? Certainly the appearance of the zombie feel slightly faster than before, but there doesn't seem to be any difference」

I kept advancing while picking magic stones and drawing the map. 「Is it expanding slightly?」 I kept advancing while

ascertaining it. The amount of monsters doesn't differ, there also doesn't seem to be any change elsewhere.

The exploration of the 11th floor finished and based on my biological clock it should be just slightly after noon. 「If I have this monsters won't approach when I'm eating the bento. Why was this not passed on at the Adventurer's Guild?」

Luciel does not know, but when Object X is poured on grass or trees they wither, farmers fear this thing more than pests. Therefore, you can only wholesale this to a person who can drink it.

After completing the exploration for the 12th floor, today's exploration ended.

「A, welcome Luciel-kun. Then let's check your point first」

「Yes. Please do」 Crap. Yesterday's impression was too strong, it made me slightly tense.

「You don't need to be that scared you know. It's not like I will catch you and eat you. Alright. Today's earnings are 12,119P」

「I'm sorry. Since the Katria-san from yesterday was really imposing, I became slightly nervous. Are you perhaps a former paladin or a priest knight, or are you a group directly under the supervision of the Pope? I should probably stop my delusions」

「Fufufu. You shouldn't inquire on a woman too much you know? Because a woman prefer to have secrets. As for a someone who likes to pry, something bad will definitely happen to him」

「That's true. There are lots of stuff in this world that one is better off not knowing. Hahaha」

「Fufufu. A, that reminds me. This is the magic bag」

「Oo. Wait, isn't this just a bag?」

「Go ahead and pour your magic power in there」

When magic power was transmitted 「O, Oo, The color changed」

Originally it was a light brown leather bag and it's become a pale-colored leather bag.

「Right. With this Luciel-kun can be said to have a personal magic bag. To use it, Luciel-kun need to be within 1 meter of the magic bag as the condition, as for how to store an object, Luciel-kun need to touch the object and think that the item will enter to store it. And when you need to take it out, you only need to imagine taking the item out inside your mind」

「Thank you very much」 I touch the bag and start to imagine the way to use it 「Perhaps there are several volumes of spell books stored inside?」

「Correct. To make you work even harder from now on, as a service there is a set of existing magic spell books inside」

「So even that spell book there?」(TL: He is referring to the super expensive spell book he was aiming for.)

「Yes. That's right」 Hasn't Great Luck been awesome lately? It's already Great Luck-sensei.

「If that's the case」 Thus I bought 4 mithril sword, 4 short spear, a bow and 5 set of quivers (20 per set). In addition, I bought several potions as well.

「You shouldn't work yourself too hard」 and she returned to being the usual Katria-san, I said my greetings as usual as I returned back to my own room.

I began putting great effort into reading the spell books that I got today and turn them into my own power. And the next day I completely finished the exploration until the 15th floor and to prepare for the paladin's training the next day I went to bed early.

Chapter 020: The Valkyrie Paladin Corps

And Early Morning Training

After waking up in the morning, I was training magical power manipulation after drinking Object X when I heard a knock on the door.

"Yes, who is it?"

"My name is Lipnea from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps headed by Lumina-sama. The morning practice is going to begin soon so I am here to call you."

"Thank you. I will leave immediately." For the sake of etiquette I went out after using purification magic.

Although it was written in the spell book that purification magic is versatile, it is even more effective than toothpaste or a bidet, it can remove bad breath and remove the need for toilet paper after using the toilet, a super-versatile magic.

When I opened the door, in front of me was ... a woman with considerably long fluffy golden curls and a pretty face with chestnut eyes in a slightly clunky armour that strangely matches her.

"Nice to meet you I am Luciel. I apologize for your time and effort spent on me today."

"Lipnea from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. Not only is it an order, but general healers are prohibited from setting foot in the Paladin's training centre so let's go."

So that's why. Even though her words were dignified I somehow could not shake off the warm and fuzzy image.

In that manner I followed after Lipnea-san, opened the door and set foot into the Paladin training grounds.

"It is considerably wide." It was at such a scale that a 400 meter track could be placed within it.

"My squad's training ground is on the small side." Lipnea-san answered.

"Eh? .. Heh~ Is that so."

"You've arrived. Good work Lipnea. Luciel-kun come over here."

They had already formed ranks, they had 10 people including Lipnea-san, and combined with Lumina-san it was a 11 man squad.

"Erm ... there are only women here?" I asked honestly.

"That is right. Are there any complaints?" A question was shot back at me.

"Well I understand that their abilities are several times higher than mine. But it is mentally tough for me to attack women ... "

"I see. You are too ignorant. I'm sorry but there is a training schedule to follow. Hurry up and introduce yourself."

"Ah, yes. I'm sorry. Nice to meet all of you, I am Luciel, currently working as an exorcist. I was allowed to participate in your training to re-train myself due to my impossible request. I might be a hindrance so please be understanding."

"Squad, he is an oddball healer that carried out 2 years worth of combat training in the Adventurer's Guild. He steadily trained because he could use recovery magic. Introduce yourselves to him at your spare time. That is all."

『Yes!』

"Well then after your warm up exercises, we will carry out 1-on-1, 1-on-2 and 2-on-3 combat training. Then let us begin." and Lumina-san began to run. Following that everyone also started running.

"Don't stand there at a daze and come along." said Lucy-san.

"First is just some light running." said Kuina-san.

"Understood." I began to run at the back of the group.

For two years at the Adventurer's Guild, I ran at full power every morning and evening without missing a day.

So honestly, with respect to running I have no problem at all. I might even say that it is effortless. That was what I thought. But reality was not so naive.

"You're slow. No matter how you claim that you are a healer run more seriously." I was lapped by Lumina-san, and was also lapped by all the other Paladins.

"Ha, ha, ha" I was running with full force. However the reality was that the girls looked like they were running at a regular pace.

I was reminded that in this world physical ability is influenced by an absolute wall called status.

Regardless of the truly powerful people Master Broad told me about, it is also a fact that it is harder to die with higher physical ability.

After running for about half an hour, I was humiliatingly lapped a total of 8 times.

"Well then form teams and begin combat training. Luciel-kun, I want to know your ability so come at me with the intent to kill using your own weapon."

"Normally one would use crushed blades?"

"Well. You won't hit me so don't worry. Oh yeah~ If you can hit me then I will listen to one of your demands." She said with a slight grin.

"Let me show you that the differences in status is not absolute during combat."

Thus I challenged Lumina-san with my two hand sword spear style.

"Seyaa~ Chaaa~ Uraa~"

I suddenly stabbed with the spear in my left hand, using that momentum I spun around and wielded my sword, anticipating that she would dodge those attacks I let out a kick as well. "You are full of gaps you know?" The very moment I heard that, my vision blurred and without realising I was staring at the sky.

"When did you start using that style?"

"Erm since I began diving into the labyrinth."

"I see, it is reckless to dual-wield without having the corresponding techniques. Come at me again with what you were taught in the Adventurer's Guild."

"Yes."

I prepared myself again, equipped the shield that I had left in my room for a long time since I started entering the labyrinth, and began to move according to Instructor Broad's teachings.

I recalled the training days I had with Instructor Broad.

Recollection

"Luciel do you hear me, majority of the time you will be attacked by a person stronger than you."

"Hahaha. I guess that's how it is."

"Yeah. The world is not so simple that the opponent would attack you alone either."

"Yes."

"But, you have capabilities regular combat occupations do not have."

"Do you mean healing magic?"

"Yes. Furthermore now you can move about, brandish your weapon and use magic at the same time right?"

"Well that is because I was forced to do the same thing for a year and a half."

"When fighting a powerful foe, chant magic while you deliberately create a large gap and aim for that moment."

" ... But I have a bad feeling about that?"

"Usually you would take advantage of that to turn the battle around, but I cannot clearly say that you have the technical capabilities to do so, and if your abilities are too far apart you might even get countered."

"That is why I've been saying since earlier that I have a bad feeling about this?"

"Deliberately take an attack from the opponent and cast recovery magic to recover while you attack your opponent. I can only think of this method."

"This kind of desperation attack, wouldn't it be catastrophic if I take one wrong step."

"Don't worry. For the remaining six months I will thoroughly handle you until you completely master this."

"He ... Help me~"

"You don't want to die right?"

"Yeah. I am certain I will die here."

"For now it would be dangerous to aim for your vitals so I will first aim for your arms or legs."

"Eh? I vaguely heard that you will eventually attack my vital points?"

"Prepare yourself."

" ... Erm Instructor Broad? Please answer me. Instructor Broad."

"Well then here I come."

"Gyaaaaaaaaa"

End of recollection

"Why are you crying? Earlier I intended to throw you gently but does it hurt?"

"No. I recalled my training days (hellish days)."

"I see. The training days (wonderful days) were compelling enough to make you cry."

"Yeah. Well then here I come." I set up an 「Attack Barrier」 and poised my sword.

"Come at me from whichever angle you like."

Holding the shield, I thrust out the sword while maintaining a low posture. Faithful to my fundamentals, I consciously maintained my body axis and footwork while attacking.

None of my attacks hit. While being bare-handed, she slowed down to a speed that I can follow and dodged while still finding the chance to add an attack in.

I somehow defended against that using the shield and continued to thrust my sword out.

I thought that there was no meaning to remain in this state. Thinking of trying the advice I received, I prepared myself and decided to attack while abandoning my body.

"HaAA" I cleaved with the sword from left to right and left myself open to an easy attack to the center of my body. Even Instructor Broad praised me for thinking of this method to make a gap.

"Because Luciel doesn't have technical capabilities, it did not appear to be done on purpose."(Instructor Broad)

Just like planned, a fist came towards me.

【By His hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, heal, High Heal.】

As light enveloped my body I swung the sword that was on my right down towards the left at full power.

In conclusion it did not hit. Lumina-san who I could visually follow until now vanished.

"Splendid!" The moment the voice entered my ear my consciousness darkened.

"... up. Wa .. up. I said wake up." At the next moment I felt an impact on my right cheek.

"It hurtsssss." I woke up.

When I raised my body both Lucy-san and Kuina-san were there.

"Eh? This is the training ground?"

"That's right. The morning training has ended so let's head to the dining hall."

"Lumina-sama asked me to look after you."

"Ah~ I was knocked out. Thank you two for waiting."

I stood up. I secretly casted 「Heal」 on my right cheek as I stood up.

"Anyway Luciel is pretty capable to be knocked out."

"I was also surprised. I'd never think that Lumina-sama would acknowledge a healer."

I totally had no idea what they meant.

"Before that, there will be more training later so let's quickly go get our breakfast."

"We are the last so let's hurry."

"Ah, okay." I was rushed by the two towards the dining hall.

Thus morning practice had ended.

Chapter 021: Luciel's Denied Nicknames Discovered By The Valkyrie Paladin Corps

Upon reaching the dining hall I queued for my meal in sequence. At that moment I felt an uncomfortable premonition.

"Good morning. I will be moving around a bit more today so please give me slightly more than usual. Also you don't need to prepare a bento for me today."

"Ara, good morning Luciel-kun. Can you finish such an amount of food?"

"Yeah. I have a feeling that I will not last until lunch if I don't eat this much." I exchanged an expression usually said by athletes, took my large serving of food and headed towards the two people sitting down.

"Thank you for waiting." I bowed.

"I've always wondered Luciel, are you fine with eating so much food?" Lucy asked.

"Yeah. Up until two years ago I was skinny and tall but the Master at the Adventurer's Guild told me that eating is the first step to becoming stronger. It is the same situation now. I continued to eat so that I wouldn't die but before I was aware of it I became used to this amount." (TL: The master here refers to Cooking bear Grulga-san.)

"I also have a question. Why do you speak so intimately with the serving lady? She is not an important person just a nobody right?"

"Eh? That is because although there is a need to bear in mind to be courteous to prominent people, there is no reason to look down on others in particular just because they are not as important? Besides I am not great enough to be addressed to with -sama."

""So this was what Lumina-sama meant when she said, ignorant."" The two of them said the exact same thing at the same time. It hurts to be insulted so frankly.

"You are an exorcist and a cleric right?"

"That's right."

"A cleric exorcist might be below priests, but you are given the authority and salary on par with the captains of the respective Knight Corps."

"Heh~. So that's why the salary was that high."

"Why are you saying that so carefreely. One day somebody will appear thinking that that attitude is offensive."

"Hmm. If that time comes I will work hard in the labyrinth and run to the Pope."

""Hah~"" Both of them exhaled a grand sigh.

Well actually it should be fine if I can please the maker of the labyrinth (the Pope) whenever it looks like it is going to get troublesome.

Thus, after returning to my room to drink Object X, I waited in front of the sign that warns that entry is off-limits to unauthorized personnel, bowed to the two who came to get me and headed towards the training grounds.

"We shall now resume the morning training. Because Luciel-kun is here today your mission will be VIP escort. Within the time limit if the assault team's attack hits the VIP then it is the assault team's win, if the time ends then the defence team wins. Any questions?"

"Yes" I raised my hand.

"Speak"

"I do not think that I would hit so I won't attack back but could I use magic?"

"Oh right. If we are the escorts then that is within expectations. I'll allow it. First we will split the defence team and assault team into 5-vs-5. I will be the referee so do not stop until I give the word. From now on think of Luciel-kun as a VIP and escort him."

『Yes』

It was a simple setup with us walking towards the center from the edge of the training ground.

In this world's escort missions the escort and the VIP cannot talk with each other.

Of course excluding when there is an emergency situation.

The defense team this time was made up of Lucy-san, Kuina-san, Punea-san who came to pick me up just now, Myra-san with a ponytail exuding a dignified atmosphere, and led by Saran-san wearing an armour with high exposure showing chiselled abs.

After exchanging greetings with them, I found that Myra-san is the type of tight-lipped female warrior, and I don't know why but I felt that Saran-san with her old man manner of speech has a maiden's heart.

Just like that I was escorted by the 5 of them and suddenly the attacks came. To be exact I was attacked. Since when was an arrow released towards me.

I was made to bend downwards. I had no idea what was happening but 【By His hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance,

with me as the center become my shield to protect my surroundings. Area Barrier.】

While I was in a squatting position the assault team was closing in.

"Advance towards that direction." 3 people were in charge of defending against attacks while another 2 protected me and we successfully reached the wall.

When only 1 person remained defending was "Times up" called out.

We temporarily gathered towards Lumina-san and the review meeting began.

"Firstly congratulations to the defense team. Assault team unfortunately you guys lost. Well then the points for reflection this time are ... "

The main points said by Lumina-san's were as such.

Assault team points to reflect on

- Even though the assault team had 5 people, they were too flustered when they could not defeat the disadvantaged remaining 3 man defense team.

- All members were positioned to be at close range.
- They only attacked me at the very beginning, and later only tried to attack me without truly attacking.

Defense team points to reflect on

- Even though they had recognized that the assault had begun, they only detected the released arrow after it had already reached the target.
- They should discuss about the safe routes in advance and prepare multiple routes.

"Luciel-kun do you have any thoughts?"

"I was surprised by the silent arrow that shot past me without me realising it. After that I was squatting down so I could not identify the number of attackers nor their attacks?"

"I see. We'll keep that for future reference. If anybody else have an opinion raise your hand, what is it Elizabeth?"

"The reason why the assault team lost this time is exactly as Lumina-sama explained earlier. However the greatest reason why we were defeated was because he was there." She pointed at me.

Likewise the other 4 people from the assault team nodded.

"I guess you are right. For you all who have been assigned to this squad for just a little less than 3 years, usually you all would not lose. But I must tell you that even though Luciel-kun is 17 years old, he is a freak who is already a level V healer."

"No way, no matter how talented one is as a healer that is not possible." said Elizabeth and even the defense team joined in at nodding.

"That is why I said he is a freak." said Lumina-san directly.

"To call me a freak, Lumina-san has been rude since just now." I murmured a single sentence.

"Ho. I received a report stating that 10 days after registering with the Healer's Guild you received combat training, 3 meals a day and lodging at the Adventurer's Guild in exchange for providing free treatment. Was this a false report?"

"... No, that is true but that was because I didn't want to die. It was just that?"

"To continue even though you were beaten up from morning until night, were you not the oddball nicknamed masochistic healer, zombie healer, masochistic zombie healer?"

"I am sorry. I was only called that because I desperately wanted to survive so please pardon me?" I prostrated on the ground. (TL: He

is afraid that the squad will start calling him those nicknames as well.)

"Well putting aside the masochist nickname, while single-mindedly undergoing combat training, I also heard that every day you not only healed the adventurers, you also continued to heal residents for free, or to be exact at a uniform rate of 1 silver coin."

"No way." I heard bewildered voices from all around.

"Well because of that, keep in mind that Luciel-kun's healer ability is already at the veterans level and act accordingly."

While in a state of not knowing whether I was being belittled or praised, the assault and defense team members were swapped and the VIP escort mission resumed during the day.

"Okay. Let's stop here. After lunch we will head towards the forest for exercises, gather here again later."

『Yes』

Thus while having lunch with everybody from the paladin corps, they pried and dug up my past history in Meratoni.

It might be because we were so noisy, somehow I finished my lunch while receiving glares (looks of jealousy, envy, contempt and desire) from the people all around. (TL: Remember this is an all girl paladin corp)

"Now then squad, from the nearby forest until the wilderness, we will now begin exterminating monsters. Everybody prepare your horses and assemble."

『Yes (? ... yes?)』 All eyes were gathered upon me who answered with a question.

"Was there something you didn't understand?"

"Yes. I mean up until now I have never experienced riding a horse."

" ... That is truly out of my expectations." Isn't that the same expression as when she called me ignorant? Everybody else had the same expression as well.

"There's no helping it. Luciel-kun go ask the stable management personnel how to ride a horse and practice. Because when we begin the exercise you might be out of our field of sight so you'll need to be able to take care of yourself."

"I apologize for the inconvenience."

"Don't worry. It's because I did not consider it as well. You can conduct your horse riding training here. That's because when our exercise has ended we will return here."

"Understood. Please don't worry and set out."

"Right. We will guide you to the stables. Okay, everybody advance."

When we arrived at the stables I was introduced to the person responsible for the stables.

"Luciel-kun, this is the person in charge Yanbus. Yanbus, this is the new exorcist who took over the responsibility a few days ago Luciel-kun."

"Nice to meet you I am Luciel. Please give me guidance because I have not ridden nor touched a horse before (During the journey Bazzan-san and co. took care of the horses so I didn't have the chance). I'll be in your care."

"Luciel-sama that makes me fearful so please raise your head. I am Yanbus and have been assigned to manage this place."

"Well then Yanbus, I will leave Luciel-kun to you?"

"Yes madam."

"Luciel-kun, work hard."

After saying just that she gallantly hopped on to the horse beside her and galloped away.

"That looks super cool. Well then best regards Yanbus-san."

"Yes."

Thus I will ride a horse for the first time in my life.

Chapter 022: First Experience Of Horse Riding, When Anxious, Train

2 people and a horse arrived at the training ground with the owner absent. (TL: Owner/lord referring to Lumina)

Well it was me.

"Anyway, Yanbus-san is work good for you here?"

"Yes. The stables I am managing houses the horses ridden by the Valkyrie Paladin Corps as well as the horses in charge of pulling carriages to receive VIP guests, so now the stable houses not only a few horses."

"I see. Then could you introduce this horse to me."

"Yeah. This horse is called Fornoir."

Fornoir sounded like the name of a cake, it gave a feeling that it means a dark forest. (TL: He is totally referring to black forest noir cakes called Forêt-Noire.)

"Fornoir, nice to meet you I am Luciel. I have not ridden on a horse before so please give me guidance." I lowered my head and was surprised by "Luciel-sama what are you doing?".

"Eh? Aren't horses smart and can understand what people say?"

"That is true but suddenly lowering your head makes it look like you are asking it to make you it's servant."

" ... Seriously?"

"I don't know for sure but that was how it looked like. This guy is exceptionally smart so it should be okay but do be careful."

"I'm sorry. Thank you for the advice."

Thus I had already made a mistake at the very first step so I was determined to absolutely listen to everything Yanbus-san says as I received my instructions.

"First face forward and stand beside it while calling the horse and touching it gently. If you mount it without warning the horse will be frightened."

"Yes." As I was told I stood at its side facing forward and touched its flank.

"It's warm."

"Yes. They are warmer than people. Although it is currently wearing a saddle, please press onto its back to signal it that you are going to mount it."

"Yes." I tried pressing 『Gutsu Gutsu』. But there wasn't any reaction.

"Okay. It doesn't seem like it dislikes it so you are fine. Please mount it."

"Eh already?"

"Yes now, I believe you've prepared yourself?"

"Understood." I kicked the ground and sat on the saddle.

"Okay. That's good. Please maintain your vertical posture with your upper body raised and your legs apart."

"Ye ... yes. Erm Yanbus isn't this is quite high up?"

"Initially anybody who saddles up for the first time thinks so as well, it's going to be fine. You will get used to it eventually."

"Are there no stirrups?"

"What are stirrups?"

"A place to place your feet or a support tool that gives a foothold?"

"Erm~ I have never heard of it. Where is this local specialty from?"

"Ah ~ never mind, I heard about it a long time ago so I only tried asking. It doesn't matter."

"I'm sorry that I can't help. Once you are done, try to actually steer. Please sandwich the horse between your knees and make sure that your axis doesn't shift. It will be tough on the sides of the horse as well if your axis shifts."

At that moment, I recalled something from my previous life. Thinking of the knee grip I used when I once rode on a motorcycle for fun, I maintained my posture. However that height was still scary. It made the area around the groin felt chilly.

"The cue to advance is by shaking the reins, pulling on the reins is the cue to stop. When turning pull the reins towards the direction you wish to turn to."

"Understood."

I lightly shook the reins. As a result Fornoir began to lightly trot.

"Okay. That's good. Please do a lap around the perimeter here with that pose."

"Here I go."

『Pakopakopako』 With a pleasant rhythm, Fornoir trotted forward and reached the end in no time at all. I pulled slightly using my right hand to prompt it to turn and it turned for me.

"Thanks" I thanked it, we once again reached the end and turned, after we moved to the side of Yanbus-san, I slowly used both hands to pull the reins and it stopped for me.

"Okay. Wonderful. Makes me think that this is not your first time."

"No, it is because Fornoir is smart. Also, it feels like my butt and knees will feel terrible if I ride for too long."

"That will happen. Not only will the skin on your butt get irritated, you will also need to keep flexing the muscles on your knees that you rarely use. Well for a healer-sama like you there would be no problems?"

Now that he mentioned it. Just being able to use 「Heal」 is a considerable cheat.

"Could I continue for a bit more?"

"Yes. Fornoir have not ran enough as well. However, please do not raise your speed unreasonably."

"Okay. Understood."

Just like that with multiple breaks interposed between horse riding, without noticing quite some time had passed and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps returned.

"Even though you are a beginner you are already looking pretty good." Lumina-san called out.

"Is that so? That makes me happy but it is because this child here is smart. I am sure that if it was an unruly horse the moment I jumped on its back I would be shaken off."

"Kukuku. I see. Training ends here today. I look forward to you joining our training next week."

"Ah, yes. Likewise I look forward to it as well."

Just like that training with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and my first horse riding experience ended.

I am a guy who can read the atmosphere ... I think. Which is why during dinner time, I had dinner at a different time from everyone else from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

Well it was for official business, but it seems like I didn't train at all today. Upon using appraisal, the skill proficiency for horse riding was definitely there but pretty much everything else didn't grow at all.

"I had not thought that it would stop growing. I feel extremely uneasy. No, maybe this is how a normal life is?"

I had such a thought but, "If I get attacked by people at the level of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps I will definitely die, I need to work harder after all. Whenever one feels anxious, train."

Thus I went and returned from the tenth floor, had my dinner and slept.

From the next day I started capturing the labyrinth again.

"There were traps from the sixth floor onwards so there should be traps from the 16th floor onwards as well."

After casting 「Aura Coat」 and 「Area Barrier」 just in case, I searched for traps while drawing the map and destroying monsters.

"Just because I don't have a rucksack now, movement has become abnormally easy, I've got to thank the Pope for this."

In truth, to pick up items with the magic bag, I don't necessarily need to use my hands to touch it, I found that even stepping on the item was enough.

"If we had this on Earth then everybody could become

magicians."

While such a corny thought floated in my head, I discovered a trap and stepped warily. 『Biiiii』 An alarm sounded and monsters surged towards me from all around.

"I see. So there are these kinds of traps as well." I nodded while casting purification magic to crush the monsters from one direction and escaped from that gap.

And then I defeated the approaching monsters individually using purification magic and my sword.

I used this combat method because during this morning in the dining hall Elizabeth-san passed a message from Lumina-san advising me that if I attempted things that I cannot accomplish it will become a strange habit so it is better to stop.

Elizabeth-san and Lipnea-san both use dual-swords so I studied under them.

"This may be an order from Lumina-sama but you still owe me one."

I lowered my head while praying that there was no interest rate for the favour I owe.

With a neat slash the undead monsters immediately disappeared. Although it is crude but this should be a stepping stone in

preparation for the next boss battle. While I pondered, I finished mapping the 16th floor and stopped to eat my lunch.

While having my bento I considered "I wonder just how many monsters can Object X repel."

As I contemplated, once I completely explored the 17th floor I once again returned to the 10th floor boss room and annihilated the monsters there. Every time I enter via the boss room I will annihilate them, every time I leave via the boss room I will annihilate them as well. So I left via the boss room, annihilated the monsters and left the labyrinth.

The next day, I returned after exploring the 18th and 19th floor. And the following day I finished exploring the 20th floor.

"So the boss room is here. Yeap. It gives off a terribly bad feeling."

Without directly bursting into the room, I returned from the labyrinth.

And then I directly asked Katria-san who was at the shop "Are the main boss rooms hierarchical in nature? What emerges from the one at the 20th floor?"

"I have no idea. I have never entered the labyrinth before. But, just maybe, like before it might be a person related to the Healer's Guild who lost their lives in this labyrinth."

She made a sorrowful face at that moment. If this was an act it is way too amazing. If she was born in a different world, with her youthful look and beautiful charm she could have lived a comfortable life as an actress.

"I see. Thank you for your valuable opinion. Are there any important items that I require?"

"If you intend to go I can't stop you. But I advice that you don't go. There's no telling what kind of traps are there."

"I won't go there yet. It won't do if I don't first hone my foundation more."

"I see. Well this does not only pertain to this labyrinth, but potions that recover magical power and physical power are indispensable. Also, connecting the stories I've heard about the other labyrinths, survival rates increases if you bring food along with you."

So these were hints for capturing labyrinths. Understood.

"If that's the case please show me the type of potions with high recovery values."

I purchased the potions and for the next two days, I traveled back and forth from the 10th floor boss room and defeated monsters using magic and sword with breaks sandwiched in between. I

worked to train my mental spirit such that I do not panic when faced with one-vs-many situations.

And then my second Valkyrie Paladin Corps training began.

Chapter 023: The Provisional Enlistment Of Luciel Into The Valkyrie Paladin Corps? On-The-Job Training For Dual Swords

I woke up earlier than usual, prepared such that I could leave at a moment's notice, and absentmindedly performed magic training while I envisioned how dual sword technique would look like.

To me dual swords was a technique that could defeat opponents using a large variety of moves and leaves them to your mercy. There should be various other interpretations but my image of it was like that.

A long time ago I once tried to hold a large sword called a Greatsword using only one hand but I wasn't able to, then Grulga-san saw me and said "Drink this". Instead of ale he made me drink Object X. Now that I think about it, since then my Object X was no longer diluted but was instead served to me in raw undiluted form.

(※Note: Due to Grulga-san's kindness, he never had Luciel drink Object X undiluted because he feared even Luciel would faint and lose all his memory. However Luciel unexpectedly finished drinking that so his growth plans were modified.)

While I reminisced, 『Kon kon kon』 I heard the sound of knocking.

"Yes. Who is it?"

"I am Elizabeth from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. I came to invite Luciel-san." (TL: Elizabeth spoke in keigo = honorific speech in Japanese used to show respect/ used by nobles in social settings)

"I'll be there immediately." Was Elizabeth an aristocrat? I prepared myself while I thought about that, finished drinking that and casted purification magic before turning the doorknob.

"Thank you very much Elizabeth-san. Thank you for the trouble of coming here." (TL: Luciel replied using honorific speech as well)

"It doesn't matter. Today I will thoroughly carve the techniques to utilize dual swords into your body so prepare yourself."

" ... Did something greatly anger you?"

"You are imagining it. Let's go."

"Understood."

She emitted an aura that barred any further prying so we began walking towards the Valkyrie Paladin Corp's training grounds.

Similar to last week ranks were already neatly formed and everyone from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps were awaiting my arrival.

"Good morning Luciel-kun, good work Elizabeth."

Elizabeth-san first bowed before she went back into the column.

"Good morning. I will be in your care for today as well."

I expressed my greetings and was going to proceed to the back but was stopped.

"Ah, Luciel-kun, hold on to this."

Lumina-san stretched out her hand and on it was a single card extended towards me. I immediately accepted the card.

"Erm what is this?"

"That card represents that you are related to the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. Don't worry and take it. With that you can enter any area restricted for paladins only without punishment."

"No, that's not the issue. The problem is why was I, a guy, even though it is provisional, issued a squad member certificate to the Valkyrie Paladin Corps."

"I consulted a certain someone, who thought that it would be interesting, so permission was received from above. That's all."

"To just say it so simply ..."

"If you are a guy then don't sweat the minor details. If not you'll go bald in the future. Okay, warm-ups."

『Kusu kusu kusu』 Elegant laughter awfully remained in my ears but as soon as I looked back, 『Yes』 everybody chased after Lumina-san who had began running and I followed behind.

"That was way too unsatisfactory an explanation~"

I tried my best to chase after their backs.

"Ha ha ha" I adjusted my breathing, exhaling and inhaling deeply.

"You've become faster compared to last week."

"Even so I was still 7 laps behind you all."

"Considering you are a healer that is quite fast?"

"Why did you end that with a question?"

"Well then. Squad today, excluding Elizabeth and Lipnea, form pairs and battle 1-vs-1, after that pair up with your opponent and conduct a playoff."

『Yes』

"First Elizabeth and Lipnea do a mock battle as fellow dual sword users. After that have a mock battle with Luciel-kun. However, severing strikes and sneak attacks are prohibited."

""Yes.""

"Now split up and begin training."

Thus I saw for the first time the mock battles by the Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

With a low posture like sliding forward, Lipnea-san approached Elizabeth-san looking as if she would slip past Elizabeth-san's right, Lipnea-san used the sword on her left hand to slash at Elizabeth-san's foot.

While composedly parrying with her own left sword, Elizabeth-san rotated using her left foot and slashed at Lipnea-san's back using her right sword.

Once again as if reading the move, Lipnea-san lifted and rotated her body, using the momentum from parrying the sword blow she gained distance from Elizabeth-san.

Continuous attacks were sent out at speeds that would be missed if you blinked together with correspondingly overwhelming speed of approach. However the other side also attacked at a similar pace so it was extremely hard to reach a conclusion.

Half way through the dance-like attack and defense, Elizabeth-san who stopped a dual sword simultaneous strike concluded the fight with the sword on her right hand resting at a horizontal position against Lipnea-san's neck.

Without a doubt the reason why Lipnea-san lost this time was because she attempted a dual sword simultaneous strike.

"What do you think?"

"They were both fast, accurately attacked the opponent's weak spots and looks like they moved while considering multiple hands and patterns in advance."

"What about regarding dual swords?"

"Yes. There are more gaps that I imagined. To maintain continuous attacks, movement is limited and attacks can't be paused. Similarly you can't let your attacks be stopped as well, there are many existing theories to it."

"Good. Looks like you paid attention. Also, in other cases feints are convenient but when handling dual swords it would shake the body's axis so attacks would lack that final decisive push. Well then you have recognized the drawbacks so next will be Luciel-kun's turn."

"Yes. I will give it a go."

First was my battle with Lipnea-san.

Along with the signal to start I invoked magic that increased physical defense, held my shield in front and waited for attacks to come.

Bathed in continuous attacks from above center below left and right, I became like a turtle but somehow could tolerate the attacks.

Comparing with Broad-san, the speed of was not as fast so there wasn't that much of an oppressive feeling so I could endure it.

I repeatedly looked for an opportunity to match my attack with a gap. I thrust my shield outwards to stop her speed and swung my sword downwards.

At the next moment, I was looking towards the sky with an impact against my chin and couldn't muster energy into my foot.

"Are you okay?"

"Yes. I am still conscious. Before that what happened at that last moment? The moment I believed I would win I ended up in this pitiful state so I would like an explanation."

"After you spectacularly defended, at the moment you swung

your sword down Lipnea somersaulted backwards and kicked out as she did so which caught your chin. After that your head was swaying about and you couldn't stand up."

"I see." I cast 「Heal」 on my head, returning strength to my legs and I called out "Another match please."

If Lipnea-san is a continuous attack type, Elizabeth-san is a counter type. She had a wealth of variations, diverting my attacks with a single hand, stopping them with both hands, even sometimes kicking when there was a gap, I couldn't attack carelessly.

I pretended to attack with a sword but instead thrust out with my shield but "That is a bad move." The moment I heard Elizabeth-san murmur, Elizabeth-san in front of me disappeared, and I was kicked and collapsed.

And then she slowly thrust a sword onto my back. Thus my second battle ended.

"What was that just now? Why did Elizabeth-san disappear?"

"It is Elizabeth's magic. Elizabeth explain it yourself."

"Yes. I am actually a holder of double light and water attributes. Thanks to that I can create illusions. That is why I aimed for the moment a gap appears when you got close enough to me."

"That was insightful." I honestly lowered my head.

Thus while the 3 of us battled and Lumina-san gave advice, the morning practice ended.

Chapter 024: The Boss Battle At The 20th Floor, Before That ...

As usual after waking up I did some stretches. "Nothing feels sore." I felt relieved and began preparing for the morning.

Yesterday, I began getting accustomed to training with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and for the training exercise I had to ride on a horse.

However. "I am sorry. Fornoir is feeling slightly under the weather so I prepared another horse for you."

Yanbus-san brought over a chestnut horse that was slightly larger than Fornoir.

"It's large."

"Yes. This one here has a slightly rougher temper but due to that it should not succumb to training exercises or monsters."

"It does look strong."

Just like how I was taught previously, I stood at the side of the horse facing forward, moved slowly and touched the horse's flank, gave the riding signal and sat on the saddle.

The next moment, it's back legs suddenly reared up. I was caught

unaware and was tossed off, landing on my back hard.

Subsequently, I tried multiple times but the same situation repeated itself. Furthermore, even on other horses I was immediately thrown off. Dazed, I challenged multiple times but still could not successfully saddle a horse.

Of course, I could not go for the exercise and until the Valkyrie Paladin Corps returned, I had already fallen off dozens of times and hurt all over but I felt that I was being looked down upon by the horses so I didn't cast recovery magic on myself.

Seeing me with wounds all over my body, Lumina-san placed her hand on my shoulder and muttered "For the time being you will have horse riding training."

Just like that my second training with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps ended.

I finished my breakfast, collected my bento and headed towards the labyrinth.

"Let's vent all of yesterday's anger."

I trained multiple times at the 10th floor boss room using purification magic, sword and shield style and, sword and short spear style.

Currently in my magic bag, I had 3 holy silver daggers.

These cost an expensive 75,000P each, I had to use all my P to get them but, just by thinking [Holy silver dagger to left hand], it will really appear on my left hand.

With almost no time lag, I believe that it will display tremendous effect when aimed at when a chasing opponent is caught off guard.

However, the current me still couldn't perform such an act so I trained there.

While eating my bento, the questions I had in my head spilled out from my mouth.

"Why can't I achieve doing that?"

In order to examine that question, I continued swinging my sword and spear and conducting my magic training.

However I had no idea since when but monsters stopped appearing.

"Was there such a mechanism? Could I continue diving if I cast 「Aura Coat」?"

Thus for 4 days I experimented to find my personal fighting style.

And so the days passed by with training. Finally, in front of the 20th floor boss room I did my final preparations.

"Weapons, good. Armour, good. Recovery items, good. Cast magic, good. Advanced dose of Object X, good."

Today, I will clear the 20th floor.

Even without being able to use magic on the 10th floor boss room, I am now able to win without taking any damage.

"Well then, God, Buddha and ancestors, please lend me your strength. Also I humbly wish that magic can be used."

I offered my final prayers and opened the 20th floor boss room.

Similar to the 10th floor, the sound from a rusted door rang out and I was met with a dim atmosphere.

"This completely makes one feel that a boss is here. Lately the boss room I go to has always been bright so I've forgotten."

When the door closed, after the room brightened, 2 skeleton knights wearing ominous equipment and a Wight appeared. Going by the skeletons I've met until now, I felt that these fellows were Specter Knights. I had a bad feeling.

I immediately chanted 【By the hand of holy healing, by the

breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification.】

Purification magic swallowed the 3 of them up and they disappeared, such a thing did not happen.

"There was no way right~."

『Gugyoogyoogugoo』

From the screams, I understood that they were suffering.

However it did not reach to the point of defeating them.

I once again chanted purification magic.

However, the Specter Knights didn't sit there like it was nothing, they faced their shields forward and charged towards me.

The magic struck them and the charging speed dropped but they did not stop.

I readied my sword and shield, avoiding the 2 charging bodies.

As I did that 3 black fire spears flew towards me at the same time.

"Namusan (TL: MC is praying here.)" I chose the route of receiving one of the spears with my shield. The image of the shield dissolving in one go flashed before my eyes and I discarded the shield before equipping a new one while chanting purification magic and casting it towards my back.

The approaching 2 Specter Knights who reached a distance of about 3 meters from me were hit by purification magic for the third time.

Upon contact, maybe because of the close distance or maybe because it was the third time, the Specter Knights stopped.

I did not stop there. I approached the Specter Knights which stood still without raising their shield, slashed at one of them with my sword, discarded the sword and retrieved a dagger, channelled magic into it and threw the dagger towards the other Specter Knight.

However, monsters are not so easy to that extent.

『Gaann』 It repelled my dagger using it's shield.

I created some distance for now and pondered on how to defeat the remaining 2 monsters while casting purification magic.

Although I've defeated one, due to that the remaining Specter Knight set up to so as to defend the Wight. The Wight was stronger than I expected and it released black fire arrows towards me.

The problem is my shield. The shield cannot defend against that black magic.

The shield I used to block the magic attack earlier now had a hole in the center, with flames burning within it.

I might even get game over with a single blow if I get hit by that.

The remaining Specter Knight came slashing. Although I somehow blocked it with my sword, I was still slightly cut.

"If that's the case, I have no choice but to do it."

At the same time the Wight released fire magic, I blocked it with a shield like before, tossed it aside and somehow closed the distance to the Specter Knight and cast purification magic at close range.

However, it didn't stop and slashed downwards with its sword. Somehow I dodged it by flying to my side. In desperation, I pulled out a dagger, channelled magic into it and threw it towards the Specter Knight and it spectacularly pierced in between the eyebrows.

"Yes!!" I wanted to praise myself for the toss that saved the day, but it had to wait until I defeated the remaining Wight. The moment I looked away, the Specter Knight glowed with a red light and 『Gyoroo』 it's eyes looked towards my direction.

『Nuriaaaaaa』 While feeling fearful I fired myself up, beheading it with the sword held in my right hand. But, I was left with an unwanted souvenir.

『Guuuuuu』 Heal couldn't remove the burning-like pain. Perhaps, I casted purification instead and the pain subsided.

A ball of perspiration fell from my forehead.

"Haa Haa, that was a curse? Even for an illusion that's too dangerous. But only you are left. Prepare yourself."

I used 「Magic Barrier」 and 「Aura Coat」 and decided to defeat the Wight by raising my vigilance to the highest level.

The Wight released multiple magic at once.

The third shield became useless as well but because it was now 1-vs-1. I spotted an opening and used purification magic while taking out my bow to hinder with its casting.

"No way." The Wight cast back magic on itself, enveloping itself with black light.

"Isn't that clearly a black version of magic barrier. ... If I can't defeat it with physical attacks I will defeat it with magic, if I can't defeat it with magic I will defeat it with physical attacks."

Letting loose an arrow, the moment the Wight's magic paused I approached it and cast purification magic and 「Area Heal」.

Surprised that instead of only a portion of its body, its whole body was covered by 「Area Heal」, the Wight groaned and stopped. At that point I threw the third dagger, and additionally also threw the spear at its torso which penetrated it, the Wight tumbled backwards and disappeared.

"Ha~. It's over. By the way, it's attack method was different from the previous Wight and I felt that it was stronger. Anyway it is a good thing it wasn't the first time I seen one. The Specter Knights were strong as well."

I picked up the large Wight magic stone, the smaller 2 magic stones, but larger and darker in colour than the ones from the undead until now, from the Specter Knights, applied purification magic to the dropped weapons, armour and accessories and stored them in my magic bag.

At that moment. 『Gogogogooo』 A rumbling sound resounded and a door appeared. I opened that door and stairs leading downwards appeared.

"As expected. But I wonder until where does this lead to? To be honest it will be tough to proceed any more. Well for now it is bento time."

After the impoverished me ate the bento, I made an effort to

recover physical strength and magical power by meditating.

"I'll take a peek at what's below, battle the Specter Knights and return. Okay, let's do that."

I descended down to the 21st floor and was momentarily stunned. The level was way too different.

Firstly, the normal walking zombies changed into ghouls which charged towards me when they saw me.

Casting purification magic dissolved them and made them disappear but that was too scary. I looked at the orange coloured walls and ascended the stairs. Returning to the boss room, I defeated the single Specter Knight.

"It doesn't drop any items huh. Also it died with just 1 purification magic. I wonder why?"

I battled multiple times, while feeling that it really hurts when I get slashed, I declared that I will one day defeat the Specter Knight without relying on magic. I ascended the stairs, realizing that I had defeated the 20th floor boss and escaped from the labyrinth.

This was just a day before I reached a month since I came to the Healer's Guild headquarters.

Chapter 025: The Second Negotiation With The Pope (Business Negotiation)

As usual after exiting from the labyrinth I asked Katria-san to purchase my magic stones.

"I will leave the calculations to you."

"Yes~. Lately thanks to Luciel-kun's hard work our debt has decreased."

"Debt?"

"Fufufu? Did you perhaps enter the 20th floor main room?"

"Yes. I went to the 20th floor boss room. I fought with a Wight and armoured Skeleton Knights."

"Then firstly the points total is 215,342P. That's quite some earnings."

"Thank you. It looks like I would once again buy various items."

"I'm happy to hear that."

"Well then it was tiring today so please excuse me."

"Fufufu, that's a funny joke but I don't particularly like such jokes."

"... Ha, hahaha. Is that so."

"Yes. Shall we go?"

And just like that I was dragged by Katria-san to the Pope's room.

"Katria, and if I remember correctly, Luciel. Thank you for coming. So what is the urgent matter this time?"

"Yes! Exorcist-dono once again advanced his capture of the labyrinth and returned today after emerging victorious from the battle with a Wight and Skeleton Knights in the 20th floor main room."

"Ho. Luciel, so the 20th floor was cleared smoothly?"

"Yes."

"Luciel is unexpectedly strong."

It sounded like she was saying (I am interested in you)?

"That is not the case. It was a tough battle and I appeared victorious just because my luck was good this time. If I didn't have

this magic bag you gave me the other time I would have definitely suffered heavy wounds or if I did poorly, I might even have died."

"I see. I'm glad that I could be slightly of use to you."

"Yes. There is no doubt that only with the assistance of your item did I turn the battle around."

"Kukuku. Even though you achieved such a distinguished feat within such a short duration, you are an interesting guy to earnestly think and say that it was thanks to me."

"Thank you very much."

"Fumu. Well then please show me the items you retrieved this time."

"Yes! This time the Wight used double elements, fire and holy. (TL: Wait Holy element? What? Typo?) Paired together with the Wight to defend it were 2 Skeleton Knights ... that looked like they were possessed so I named them Specter Knights. And these are the dropped items."

The Wight left behind it's robe and 2 bracelets, the Specter Knights left behind their sword, shield and equipped armour. The attendants took the items but did I imagine the slightly upset look on Katria-san?

The Pope retrieved the items one by one, slowly examining them

before finally speaking.

"As expected, these too ... Luciel, thank you for the trouble you've taken. The items you retrieved previously and this time as well from the defeated Wights used to be in the possession of former bishops and cardinals. These 2 people have been missing for more than 10 years."

"Does this mean they passed away in the labyrinth and after becoming undead they bore their fangs towards the Healer's Guild headquarters?"

"Fumu. To be accurate, the Saint Schull Allied Nations and Holy city's Saint Schull Church does not encompass the whole Healer's Guild." (TL: In other words the Healer's Guild is not only made up of people from the Allied Nations and Holy City's Saint Schull church.)

"You mean ..."

"Ah, slightly more than 50 years has passed since the labyrinthification of the underground began. Nobody has any idea why the labyrinth appeared. In the past, this place was unimaginably lively. Numerous priest knights and paladins had friendly competitions here."

Certainly, my room is meant for 2 but I am living there alone. I see. By interweaving both true and false information together and providing weapons, they raised the people's motivation to capture the labyrinth. (TL: I think that the MC believes that the fact that

more people used to live here is true but other points raised by the Pope is propaganda or he thinks that the Pope is lying to conceal the fact that the Wights originated from the Healer's Guild.)

"However, as a response to the sudden labyrinth-fication, the church dispatched many individuals to seal the labyrinth and avoided the situation where the surface gets flooded with monsters."

"The labyrinth can be sealed?"

"It can be done. If impurity-expelling magic is used. Large amounts of pure Holy attribute magical power is required. Well at that time a perfect seal was not achieved."

"I see. Are there any other methods to seal the labyrinth?"

"Yes. If the miasma-releasing labyrinth core is destroyed, the labyrinth's activity would cease and no longer expand in size. Sealing the labyrinth then would cause the impurities to dissipate and the labyrinth to disappear."

"You wish to make the labyrinth disappear?"

"It is troublesome to have a labyrinth in the church. A labyrinth is said to be born at a place which accumulates magical power and merges miasma with people's greed. Do you not understand the negative implications of having such a place within the church?"

"Yes. That is certainly true."

"Returning to the topic, at that time the people who dove into the labyrinth were priest knights and paladins. They proceeded at a surprising pace. Somewhere along the lines of reaching the 7th floor from the 5th floor in 1 day. However, due to the foul odour and miasma, the advancing pace gradually dropped."

But I could advance just fine? Doesn't this mean she is indirectly stating that I am a weirdo?

"Even so as the elites of the church, the priest knights and paladins forged onwards for the church. However, they collapsed due to disease from the thickening miasma, from the stronger enemies ... enemies that could use mental magic appeared and magic aimed at those enemies ended up hitting fellow teammates ..."

An undead that can use such type of magic, isn't that a Wraith? More pressingly, Wraiths can appear as well? That's rough.

"The unreasonable labyrinth capture was cursed and many were sacrificed. As a result, the labyrinth was sealed to prevent monsters from escaping but one day zombies began crawling out so construction works to expand the building began."

"So the reason why now healers with low physical capabilities are chosen as exorcists is ..." (Luciel)

"These several decades it is hard to find people born with the JOB of priest knights and paladins, and even if they are born many do not affiliate themselves with the church. The numbers now are 20% compared to the past. To be frank we have no personnel that can repeatedly enter the labyrinth."

"Is that why healers capable of using purification magic were pulled in to cull the monsters?"

"That's right. Now we aim to make it such that zombies don't escape from the labyrinth. That has become the top priority."

Eh? That means instead of capturing the labyrinth, she is hinting to me to just patrol the upper floors? Good weapons and items would drop more easily?

"I see. How far did the previous labyrinth capture reach? And it would be good if they found out, how deep does the labyrinth continue until? Receiving some information would help?"

"What I heard from that time was that they defeated the 40th floor boss. In that fight 2 commanders died so the labyrinth capture was abandoned."

"By the way how do those people compare to the current paladins."

"They were stronger. Then, it was a time of intense war and battles compared to now. They were the elites that supported that

time but ..."

"Is that so."

Isn't this a totally impossible game ...

"I apologize knowing that this is rude, but can't you form a magical pledge with the adventurers to crush the labyrinth and capture the labyrinth that way?"

"Umu. There was such a suggestion at that time as well. However, adventurers could not enter the labyrinth. This was only understood later but, only individuals with aptitude to light and holy attribute magic such as priests, priestess, heroes, sages, paladins, priest knights and dragon knights could enter."

"Erm~, even a hero party could not clear the labyrinth?"

"Umu. Just before they entered the labyrinth, the demon race begin advancing at that bad timing so the labyrinth capture didn't happen.

Sadly, after defeating the demon lord the hero lost his power and was no longer capable of fighting."

... That is way too coincidental.

"Looking back now 50 years is a long time ago."

"I see ... Why did the people who became the Wights enter the labyrinth several decades ago?"

"They had the ability to. They were wasteful with money as can be seen from the equipments and above that their greed was strong. The majority entered the labyrinth aiming to get rich quick. Well they might even aimed to just recover a small sum of money."

"I see."

"Umu. That is all I know regarding the labyrinth. Right, just now you mentioned that you struggled in battle, if I increased the number of people is it possible to capture the labyrinth from now on?"

"It is possible. But ... only if they can tolerate the stench like me and have mental, charm and illusion resistances."

" ... Just don't overdo it. (TL: The Pope just gave up cause there's no one who can fit that criteria) Could I entrust you to capture the labyrinth gradually by yourself?"

"Yes. Only if it is little-by-little."

"Fumu. Is there anything you desire?"

"Your highness, I might need anti-undead weapons, armours or items that can increase my survivability."

"Understood. I will prepare them and let you choose at your discretion." Yes, successful!

"Thank you. Also, previously have there been reports of monsters apart from the undead appearing in the labyrinth?"

Only this would pose a problem. If purification magic is rendered ineffective at the lower floors then it would be game over.

"No, there wasn't any. Were there any reasons to suspect that?"

The Pope looked anxious. I was just being cautious for the time being.

"No, this time I could not have defeated the Specter Knights and Wight without purification magic, so if in the future monsters apart from the undead appear, fundamentally I would not be able to continue my labyrinth capture ... "

"Fumu. In the past the priests all had high levels but were still defeated."

That's right. I was still only at level 1.

"There's no knowing what will appear. I do not expect too much

from the labyrinth capture so I'll be glad if you just attempt to."

"Understood."

"Well then please continue your unfinished labyrinth capture. That's right. If your healer rank rises above VI, let me know because I can promote you. If it's for Luciel I'll make time for it."

"Promotion?"

"Umu. Originally JOB levels are slowly refined over long years. And when JOB levels rise above VI promotion becomes possible. If one reaches the highest level X the JOB selection choices changes but I do not know of anybody who only got promoted at such a high level."

"Can I promote infinitely as long as I increase my JOB level?"

"That is impossible. There are no records of similar cases written in ancient literature. In addition, only people holding the JOB of king, emperor and priestess can promote others."

"Thank you for the information. In relation to this, I've heard that there are multi-jobs as well? Are those different?"

"Multi-job refers to those who had the bad luck of holding 2 jobs. I heard that it is hard to raise their JOB levels and they have delayed growth."

"Are there no studies done on that?"

"Yes. It is rare after all. It is believed that those holding on to multi-job are given a trial by the gods."

"I see."

"Well that's all. Thank you for your hardship today. I will entrust the items that might come in handy in the labyrinth capture with Katria. Katria stay behind. Oi, help me send Luciel."

"Yes. I will do so." (Random attendant)

"Thank you for your precious time during your busy schedule today."

"Umu. I look forward to Luciel's activities from now on."

"My pleasure."

Thus my second audience (business negotiation) with the Pope ended.

Chapter 026: New Nickname Obtained

"Deviant Saint"

After I was brought to an area I was familiar with by the Pope's attendant, I expressed my thanks and walked towards the direction of the dining hall.

"There's quite a lot of people here." As I queued, which brought up memories of school cafeterias, somebody called out to me.

"Luciel-kun, after getting your food come sit over here."

Before turning around, just by listening to the voice I immediately knew who it was.

"Lumina-sama thank you for your hard work. Thank you for inviting me over."

I turned around and briefly answered with a greeting.

"Umu."

The people who saw that spectacle didn't think too well of that. Although they did not come pick a fight, bathed in the persistent gazes, I felt depressed from the constant stares.

"Good evening. Please give me a large serving today as well. Ah, also today's bento was delicious."

"Ara Luciel-kun thank you. Well then I'll give you an even larger serving."

After saying that she personally delivered the meal, which was easily over 5 times more than the other people queuing up, a number of people did a double take when they saw it and looked like they wanted to laugh, but the gazes further accumulated so I promptly moved.

"It's rare that all of you are gathered together."

"Yeah. The truth is there are currently squabbles at the international borders between Elimashia Empire, Rubruk Kingdom and the Saint Schull Allied Nations. Unfortunately, my Valkyrie Paladin Corps and the Priest Knight Corps were assigned to patrol the periphery."

"That means?"

"Umu. I'm sorry but from tomorrow onward the trainings will stop for some time. Of course, I don't mind if you enter the training grounds to train your horsemanship ... to practice riding a horse." (TL: Lol he is so bad at it that she can't even say that it is horsemanship.)

Let me restate it? Lumina-san is occasionally rude. Although I wanted to say that, but I couldn't.

"Understood. I understand that you all are strong but please take care to not get wounded and return safely."

"Well, when we are not around I think that the person most troubled would be Luciel."

Maruruka-san said something ominous.

" ... ?"

"That's right. You are always together with us so don't you think that you are not really held in good terms by others?"

Gannett-san further added on.

"Well true ... "

Since coming to the church headquarters, I have not spoken to any guys apart from Jordo-san, Granhart-san and Yanbus-san.

"You are always covered by bloodthirst."

Beatrice-san, that is too scary.

"Rest in peace."

Cathy-san, that is too far a leap.

"No no, bloodthirst have not been sent my way. And I'm not going to die."

『Haa~』

Eh? Why is everybody sighing so deeply?

"It would be best if you undergo special training to be slightly better at reading the signs."

Lipnea-san gave me an advice.

" ... Well, it is just like Luciel-san after all, to be dense."

Elizabeth is being insensitive? A follow-up advice to me?

"If you die I will pray for you."

Eh? Why are you so certain that I will die? Kuina-san?

"I will avenge you."

Myra-san. That's dangerous. Eh? Or is the situation really that bad? Instead for getting revenge for me, can't you defend me?

"Luciel, try your best to escape."

Lucy-san took a fighting pose.

"Where do you intend to run away to?"

Where can I escape to?

"That's right~ If you enter the labyrinth wouldn't it be fine since they can't go in?"

Lucy-san, wouldn't that just be my usual routine?

"You guys, don't say such irresponsible things."

That's right. Lumina-san please give me some advice. Ah, she diverted her eyes.

"That's it. Luciel have balls right. You should be able to protect your own balls."

Saran-san shot out words like an old man but, my life depends on my balls?

"Saran-san, even though your room is so girly, why are your remarks always so vulgar in that tavern old man tone of voice."

"Shu ... shut up. I don't want to be told that by you Elizabeth who speaks in a princess tone of voice but have a sloppy personality."

"There there both of you calm down. You are both self-destructing."

The two finally realised that I am present and sat down blushing, glaring at each other. Let sleeping dogs lie. I pretended to not notice.

"Well despite these reasons, if by the time we return you are still incompetent I will re-train you without any questions asked so be diligent."

"Yes sir!"

While still troubled by the problems without any resolutions, in response to Lumina-san's words I placed my hand on my chest and replied at the top of my voice.

After that, while chatting and having our meals, we finally returned to our respective rooms.

I went towards the oba-chan and kindly requested her to prepare a large quantity of food for me.

After that, in order to replenish that, I went to the Adventurer's Guild.

"Good evening."

After calling out, I noticed that the waitress was a different one from the one before so I had her call the master out.

" ... To come back exactly one month later, did you really finish all of that?"

The master asked me with a startled expression.

"Of course. Ah, I will be going on a slight expedition so please prepare 10 barrels."

" ... Hey are you the healer than came from Meratoni?"

For some reason the master asked. Don't tell me, an assassination? I was fearful as I replied.

" ... Yes. One month had quickly passed by since I've arrived here."

"By the way, do you work as a healer in the Holy City?"

It seemed like it was not for an assassination. But this enquiring gaze, why is it that I had a feeling I've seen this before.

"No~, I am currently employed by the church headquarters so it is impossible for me to live in the Adventurer's Guild."

" ... Is that so. Understood. I will prepare that so please wait a moment."

He disappeared into the kitchen with a gloomy face.

"That expression, I am suuuper~ curious."

Now that I've noticed, it's pretty quiet today. Just when I thought about that, I saw injured people? being carried to the underground training grounds.

"Excuse me."

There were few other customers around so I called out to the waitress.

"Do you wish to order?"

"No, it is the first time I've come out in a month but injured people are being carried underground, had something happened?"

"Yes. Lately, it seems that although the monsters have become more active, even high level monsters have appeared so the adventurer's have been fighting an uphill battle."

"I see. Is that why the master had that gloomy look?"

"Yes. Many of the master's acquaintances have been injured."

"What's the response from the healer clinics?"

If it is healing, as long as it is not too severe it should be able to be healed?

"Everyone has severe wounds and cannot pay tens of gold coins. Are you telling the adventurers to become slaves?"

Eh? Had I said something terribly rude to this person I just met to warrant such anger? Hmm? Become slaves? Even though we are in the Holy City? My head was spinning round and round thinking about that. For starters I'll deny that statement first.

"Eh? Nobody said that." (Luciel)

"Mirinia! Stop it."

The master came out and helped me.

"But master, this person said to consult the healer's hospital ..."

As I've said before, those eyes are not a reward to me.

"If that's the case, how much would you charge?" (Master)

"Well~. One silver coin per person, the Pope and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps will help as much as possible if I am troubled. I will work hard to amend my unpleasant nicknames."

"... Then, show me your resolve by drinking this."

『Don』 A mug was placed down and I began drinking.

"Glug, glug, glug, glug, fuuu~. Let's go. Ah, firstly please fill in those barrels."

I confirmed the contents of the barrels with the master and placed them into my magic bag.

"Isn't that ... Never mind, follow me."

Was he surprised by my magic bag? I wore the church's white robe and went towards the underground.

The place changed until it looked just like a field hospital.

Those who saw me coming down shot bloodthirsty looks at me.

No, the target of those gazes were not me but instead my white robe.

With just that small detail, a riot occurred.

"What did you come here for. Money-grubber."

"To dare to come here, fall into hell."

"Leave~"

"I'll kill you."

Un. That's dangerous. It was so scary that with just a little bit more I would have leaked.

"Quiet down you idiots~!!"

The tavern master raised his voice.

The training grounds fell silent.

"This dude, no, this personage is the one known as the legendary healer from Meratoni city Masochist-sama. Even though he had come here to help at just one silver coin per person, if anybody have any complaints they can leave."

"Zombie healer?"

"Eh, although he looks quite handsome but he's called a masochist?"

"The masochist zombie healer wasn't just an urban legend?"

"To only charge one silver coin, he's just like a sage from a fairy tale."

"Oi, hang in there, if it's the Zombie-sama, then you might be saved."

"Hang in there, Zombie-sama, quickly heal."

The calls for zombie, zombie and zombie increased.

Damn it, that master had to say my zombie nickname. Wait a minute, in this case the beginning is where it is essential. I fired myself up and called out.

"I have no intention of stealing the customers from the other healer clinics. Today I just coincidentally came here to drink Object X. That is why, I cannot heal you all every time, please do not cause a riot or collide with the other healer clinics due to the higher prices."

I made sure everyone around understood that.

"One silver coin per person, the Pope and Valkyrie Paladin Corps

within the church will help out as much as possible if I am troubled. And stop with the unpleasant nicknames especially zombie and masochist, if not I will not heal you guys. If you all understand then I will begin. Ah, please gather the heavily injured."

Then, immediately the individuals who collapsed due to injuries were gathered.

While expressing relief that my Holy attribute magic level became VIII after spending half a year, I spun my words.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, shelter everything and heal everyone, Area High Heal.】

Right after chanting the words, a huge ton of magical power was robbed from me but I maintained the magical power control and thought of curing them.

A pale light covered everybody within a 3 meter radius. When their bodies emitted light, like on rewind, their wounds resealed and even bent fractured arms were healed via a principle I had no understanding of.

"Fu~. I'll begin the next one now." (Luciel)

"Ah, yes. Oi those next up hurry up."

With breaks in between, I casted another 2 「Area High Heal」 to heal the wounds.

Unfortunately, even though I healed them, I could not regenerate collapsed eyes or cleaved limbs.

But nobody complained or held grudges towards me who was trying my best to heal.

After my treatment ended, within the silence, they secretly discussed my nickname.

"He said that masochist and zombie are not allowed right?"

"He said that he hated them."

"But then should we go with 'sage'? Since he is a healer?"

"How should we do this. He likes combat even though he knows that he wouldn't win right?"

"If that's the case then the 'healer combat maniac'?"

"That sounds awkward. How about because he helps people at a cheap price, the 'cheap healer'?"

"He would definitely be attacked by the Healer's Guild if we

named him that."

"Because masochist and zombie sounds good together, it's hard to change it."

"Then since he is a fine person, 'saint-sama'?"

"He's still young, that sounds too heavy."

"If that's the case, since he can drink that, how about 'healer freak'?"

"That isn't much different from masochist."

"Then since he is like a saint but also a freak, then should we call him the 'deviant saint'?"

""That's it!!""

"But, masochist and zombie still sounds the best after all."

"That's true."

After I finished healing everyone, I was bathed in calls of 'masochist' and 'zombie' resulting in the blue vein on my forehead popping up as I received the treatment fee. I was on the verge of magic depletion, and this time fanned by Object X, I was now

bathed in calls of 'deviant saint' so I left the Adventurer's Guild.

Just like that a new nickname was added to my list of nicknames. I flew into the bed, wet the pillow with tears and vowed to the moon that rarely came out that I will work hard to train to be able to complain to the adventurers.

Book 3: Labyrinth Capture And The Truth That I Didn't Want To Know

Chapter 27: Full Of Cheat Equipments (In Luciel's Eyes)

The next day after the mini uproar in the Adventurer's Guild, under tremendous cheers from the large scale expedition ceremony, the Valkyrie Paladin Corps began their journey.

I was surprised by the enthusiasm shown on the faces of everyone from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, but within the cheers I heard things like "Looks like it is Zombie-sama", "Looks like it is Masochist-sama", and "Looks like it is Deviant Saint-sama". Everyone stared at me from horseback with bold smiles as they left on the journey from the Holy City Schull.

"Even though I went to such lengths to tell them to stop using those nicknames. Oh well there's nothing I can do."

After sending them out of the Holy City, I took a slight detour to collect my meals before heading to the labyrinth.

Katria-san was already at the counter reading a book.

"Ah, Luciel-kun, good morning. You are late today."

"Yeah. I went to send everyone from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps off as I had been in their care lately."

"Ah~. So you'll be going into the labyrinth from today? Will you

be returning at around the same time as usual?"

"No, I intend to dive in for a little longer. Because it seems like I am not that well regarded by the people around here."

"I can't allow you to do something so dangerous."

"Even though you say that but I only return to go back to my room to sleep anyway, my meals are also packed within this magic bag so you don't need to worry?"

"That is not the problem."

"I'll be fine. In the boss rooms once I defeated all the monsters as long as I don't open the door monsters can't come in."

"You will die if you get complacent."

"Yeah. I have somehow earned some resentment due to me getting on friendly terms with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps so I wanted to disappear into the Labyrinth."

"Ha~. If that's the case then please return here once every week. The items you blackmailed from the Pope would have arrived here by that time as well."

"Understood."

"Don't die okay."

"Yeah. My motto is to not die and survive. I'm off then."

"Take care and be careful."

"Yes. I'm off."

Like that I stepped into the labyrinth.

After chanting 「Aura Coat」, I ran through the first floor and destroyed the monsters.

After defeating them, I collected the magic stones into my magic bag by stepping on them and descended down the stairs.

I looked at the map and memorized the paths before steadily advancing and defeating monsters. By the time I reached the 10th floor boss room my stomach clock rang.

"Somehow I feel like I have amazing stamina."

I purified the boss room and spread out the bento. After finishing my meal, I drank that stored inside my magic bag, rested for a while and then advanced in a similar method until the 20th floor."

"Sei, Teiaaaaaa, Eh!? Shit!" 【By the hand of holy healing, return

the unclean existence to its original path. Purification】

Using a shortened chant, the MP consumption was larger than usual but I successfully defeated the Specter Knight.

"Fu~. My stomach feels empty so it should be around dinner time. Somehow, to have warm meals within the labyrinth keeps the heart at ease."

I made a well balanced meal (or intended to) from the food bought from various places.

Following that, I drank Object X and fought with Specter Knight-sensei multiple times, purified the boss room with purification magic, applied Aura Coat and slept with a barrel of Object X placed nearby. (TL: he is using the barrel of Object X like it is insect repellent)

"That's a ceiling that I don't recognize. Wait it's the labyrinth. I don't know how but I slept like a dead log in such a place, not to mention on such a hard floor."

While murmuring that, I confirmed that the surroundings did not have any monsters and hence didn't feel bad.

"Maybe because I applied purification magic to the place. Okay. After eating my breakfast and doing some combat I'll go investigate the 21st floor."

In that manner I ate my meal and only fought with Specter Knight-sensei once before starting my exploration.

"Even though it's already frightening enough with the ghouls, to think that there are even mummies."

I could still defeat them with just one strike from purification magic. As I lamented the lack of combat potential, I desperately investigated the floor that had expanded in size on an empty stomach before finally finishing my map on a slightly raised area.

"It's about time I return."

I returned using the shortest distance, right before the stairs I took out Object X and verified its effectiveness on the monsters chasing after me.

" ... Truly just what is Object X."

The undead monsters maintained a certain distance and totally did not approach me.

After returning the ultra-versatile cheat item Object X into my magic bag, I ignored the approaching monsters as I returned to the boss room, fought with Specter Knight-sensei and had dinner, before I practiced magic and trained with Specter Knight-sensei.

Apart from getting hit in the vitals or getting amputated, I had confidence that I could heal over the illusion.

"Even though it is an illusion, if my limb gets severed it seems like there would be after effects."

But this is a little strange for an illusion? No, because it is configured exactly like a game that's why there's no mistaking it, it's an illusion.

With that, deep in thought, the 2nd day of exploration ended.

The next day I reached the 22th floor. And the day after that the 23rd floor. Even though I was terrified of my opponents, the exploration somehow proceeded steadily and so 1 week in this world passed thus I returned for the first time.

Upon exiting the labyrinth, Katria-san was already waiting for me at the shop.

"I'm back. Please purchase my magic stones."

"Thank god you are alright. Also, it's great that you returned after 5 days. New weapons, armour and also many valuable magic tools of yours were entrusted to me."

"It was 5 days? Maybe my stomach clock went a bit haywire. Well it's fine since the timing was just right."

After that, my magic stones were converted into P and she gave

an explanation for the equipments I've received.

- Mithril Sword: A common looking sword that is easy to channel magic into and if Holy attribute magic is channelled into it, it will display tremendous power against the undead.

- Mithril Spear: Easy to channel magic into and if Holy attribute magic is channelled into it, it will display tremendous power against the undead.

- Antiheretical Shield: A shield with Light sealed within, hated by those with Undead (Immortality) attribute. Possess high resistance against Darkness attribute.

- Paladin's Armour: An armour blessed with divine protection given to all paladins when they are appointed. A cheat armour that possess high resistance against Darkness attribute, blocks off miasma, reduces gravitational pull (TL: literally reduces/alleviates gravity not item weight), regulates temperature and has self-maintenance function.

- Sage's Gauntlets: Required MP reduced to $\frac{2}{3}$ of original costs, magic power increased to 1.2 times.

- Boots of the Earth: Different from what's expected from its name, it is light and if magic is channelled into it, it will become even tougher than steel. It is a first-class items to the extent that if Fighters see it they will be green with envy.

- Angel's Pillow: It is told that if you sleep on this pillow you will experience sound sleep and your fatigue will be gone by the next day. Also, it pulses with Light which monsters hate.

" ... Apart from the weapons the others all have outrageous capabilities. Nevertheless, why were so many items assembled?"

"Because of the expectations on you. Well truthfully there are no healers that can equip these equipments. Looks like they were stored for the event when somebody like Luciel-kun who can capture the labyrinth appears."

"Even so, can't items like the Antiheretical Shield and Sage's Gauntlets also be given to paladins and priest knights?"

"That is because there are conditions to equipping them."

"Conditions?"

"Yes. Don't fret the minor details and try putting them on."

"Understood."

Thus I acquired cheat equipments.

"Ara, it looks good on you. Besides, I'm glad that it looks like you can equip them."

"Truthfully, what are the conditions?"

"Erm. Apparently, to have defeated more than 1000 undead monsters, to have either Light or Holy attribute, and to have reached a certain amount of skill level."

"Heh~ I see (What a convenient opportunity thrown my way)"

"Then what do you intend to do after this?"

"I'll enter again. Before that I wish to purchase some daggers for throwing purposes."

"Mou. Don't push yourself."

"Yes. Of course. In addition purifying the main room mysteriously makes the place settle down."

"That's not a great discovery. In the past many people's physical conditions broke down because of the smell so be careful."

"Yes. If I start feeling bad I'll return."

"Well then please return within a week."

"Understood. Also regarding the equipment, if you by any chance meet with the Pope could you please convey my thanks?"

"Yeah. Okay."

"Well then I'm off."

"Yes. Take care."

Thus dressed in cheat equipment, I ran towards the 10th floor boss room while defeating monsters and stayed over at the 10th floor boss room inn. The next day I once again ran towards the 20th floor.

The fact that within the items received the one I was the most happy about was the Angel's Pillow was my personal secret.

Side Story 4: Valkyrie Paladin Corps

Captain Lumina

My name is Luminaria·Arc·Francis.

I was born into this world as the second daughter of an Earl's house of a certain country.

Brought up with tenderest care, at the age of 9 I was selected as a bride for the son of a Marquis house belonging to my father's faction.

At that time, apart from when I studied decorum and the way of the country, I was a quiet child who loved to read.

Usually at the age of 15 one is recognized to have grown up from a child into an adult through a coming-of-age ceremony, but for aristocrats it was different.

That's because the direction for our education was decided from young.

And just like that my life changed drastically. The coming-of-age festival began. (TL: Her coming-of-age festival was at a younger age than 15 because she was an aristocrat)

During the ceremony to elect my job, praying to the chief god Kuraiya-sama, I chose to be a paladin.

Paladins possess both Light and Holy attributes, or alternatively any other suitable magical attributes, and various status parameters experience a huge increase.

It is a higher rank job compared to the usual knight, healer or magician jobs.

Originally, only upon reaching level VI for the beginner job can one promote into a paladin through a selection ceremony conducted by a king, emperor or priestess, no, it might even require a second promotion above that.

However, I did not rejoice. Because I knew of the reality.

My parents showed delighted expression on their faces, but they must have been crying in their hearts?

The next day, I heard that my father cancelled my wedding and my parents no longer involved themselves with me any more than necessary.

At the age of 15 a paladin is forced to choose between serving the country as a knight or becoming a paladin in the Saint Schull church headquarters. But I didn't have an option.

I no longer had the choice of becoming a knight for the country after I smeared mud on the Marquis's name. (TL: The original text was 'paladin' instead of 'knight for the country' but I'm pretty sure

it's a typo)

Decorum training was replaced by martial arts training, the time for handicrafts and drawing was replaced for horsemanship, the books for me to read changed from story books to magic spell books.

And then at the age of 14 I was kicked out of the house and assigned to Saint Schull's Paladin Corps.

I had read stories regarding heroes, brave warriors, priestess, sages and paladins since a long time ago.

Although not to the point of being virtuous, I had high aspirations and was committed to serving the people.

Even though I had been disinherited, like those paladins that appeared in the stories, I strove to live nobly like my parents.

However, in reality the church was a sloppy organization.

Getting by with bribes, being called scrooges, using force to obtain gold and crushing everything that offends them.

It was a den of devils in which evil spirits dwelled.

I wept because of the overwhelming horrors.

However, the position of paladins was far above that of healers and also above that of priest knights.

I swore to polish myself through training. Ten months later I welcomed my coming-of-age ceremony and the gods bestowed upon me a special eye.

I could see magical power through that eye. I named it the Magic-coloured eye.

I could determine a person's magical power aptitude as well as their characteristics with it.

That eye was not coloured differently and I never told anyone else about it.

To get used to the eye I desperately trained.

At the age of 18 I was called out by the captain of the Paladin Corps, Catherine·Frena.

"Come with me."

"Yes!"

I was brought to the Pope's room.

"Catherine, are you really retiring?"

"Yes. For the injustice by the paladins, as captain I must take the blame."

"But I have already sent the manipulators into the labyrinth."

"Doing that does not rid the church of its purulence."

" ... "

While listening to the conversation, I felt startled by the statement that Catherine-sama was retiring.

Even though my name is Luminaria, when I came to the church I changed my name to Lumina.

That also happens during a situation when 2 people have the same name, but when I entered the church I lost my name.

Well I lost my name because I was disinherited.

Catherine-sama was the reigning leader of the Knight Corps made by gathering both paladins and priest knights.

With the same standing as bishops, it was easier to count the number of people with greater authority than her.

Due to her enormous achievements, she was appointed a new surname name by the Pope. (TL: Pope's surname is Fluna, hers is Frena)

My head was in turmoil from the information that that Catherine-sama was retiring.

"With that, I hope that you can help me with something."

"What is it? I will allow almost anything."

"Thank you. I wish to divide the current members into priest knights and paladins."

"... Why?"

"Yes. There is a need for me to work in the shadows to hunt the purulence. And I wish to erode away the purulence without soiling my hands."

"Fumu."

"I am splitting the squad because there are not many people who can work in the shadows, and I want excellent talents like this girl Lumina topple her senior who only know how to lift their chins up just because they are slightly older."

" ... Okay, but how should I go about doing it?"

"Yes. I have already elected 3 priest knight and 3 paladins whom I trust."

" ... Have you not told them that you are splitting the squad?"

"Yeah. Don't you think that only those who win the spot of captain using their own abilities can gain the confidence of those around them more easily?"

"By chance you mean..."

"Yes. I will conduct a tournament. All judgements will be made by me so I will not allow any frauds. In addition, everyone is in the dark with regards to the 2 squads that I chose to split them into just now."

"Doing so will become a matter of survival for the church."

"Yes. Because of that, I will wager my life to cut off the purulence."

" ... Very well."

"Lastly, if this Lumina becomes a captain, make it such that her squad is made up of only females."

"Umu. Very well. I will await your results."

"Yes!"

Thus I left the Pope's room while still feeling confused.

"What is your intention? No matter what it is not certain that I would come out victorious in the tournament?"

"Fufufu. There's no way you wouldn't. Lumina just needs to participate earnestly. No, if this doesn't succeed then the survival of the paladins and the church would be in jeopardy so do it seriously."

"I ..."

"I know. About your kindness, about your cowardice, even about that eye. That is why I command you. Become the captain."

"How did you find out about my eye?"

"When I was first assigned there was a person who had the same eye as Lumina. Your actions closely resembles hers, using the eye to see the colour and waves of magical power to anticipate attacks and dodge magic. Also when you use it too much you fall into a condition similar to magic depletion."

"That person is?"

"No longer around. She, together with other knights were ruined by the scrooges."

"Is that so."

"Lumina, I beg of you. I do not know if it is possible to make the church become virtuous but lend me your strength to at least make it better."

"Please stop that. I understand. I will give it my best."

I was splendidly done in by the virtuousness of the bowing Catherine-sama.

One month later, as the captain of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, 5 people were assigned to my squad from the Paladin Corps and we patrolled various locations. 3 years later in Meratoni, with 10 people now in my squad, I met a youngster who although appeared cowardly, but he released waves of strong and bright magical power.

My name is Lumina, the captain of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, 4th squad of the prestigious Saint Schull church Paladin Corps.

Our main mission is to either terminate or supervise the church's enemies, be it human or monster, or people related to the church.

I heard that Captain Catherine ... now Katria-sama, was now in charge of the church's internal and external management and negotiations.

When I last met her a while ago, she had changed from a knightly person into a gentle woman.

Learning from the past Katria-sama, I began using a domineering manner of speech but the times I failed to do so was more.

After I returned to the church following my travels between various locations, I passed my report to Katria-sama but it seemed like there wasn't enough information to catch the frauds.

"If only there was a kid who could break through the labyrinth."

She complained.

Indeed currently the main job for Granhart-dono, who is famous for being stubborn but also trusted by Katria-sama, is to appoint healers as exorcists to make sure monsters do not come out from the labyrinth.

"Katria-sama, let us go capture the labyrinth together."

I suggested a way to eliminate Katria-sama's grief.

"Lumina, that is impossible. You all are not allowed to go, let

alone me."

"Katria-sama, this isn't like you. You've cleared countless labyrinths before."

"This is the labyrinth of the undying. Only the so-called undead appears in this labyrinth."

Undead ... monsters that can move even though they are not alive. Indeed it should be extremely smelly.

" ... Don't worry. We can surely break through it."

"Do you know that until now, since the labyrinth appeared more than 50 years ago, there has been no records of clearing the labyrinth? At that time the paladins and priest knights were, unlike the current imposters shaking their legs but, the real thing? In addition the undead attribute uses Darkness magic."

" ... Which inflicts a state of confusion?"

"Yes. According to the records, at that time there were many knights who lost their lives to friendly fire. So it will be difficult as long as there are nobody capable of defeating the undead, not to mention resisting Darkness magic."

"Is that so. Such hero-like requirements ... To think that I was ignorant to so much, I'm sorry."

"It's okay. By the way this time there will be a new exorcist coming from Meratoni."

"From Meratoni? But in the past, or to be specific about 2 years back, there wasn't anybody with the capabilities of becoming an exorcist though?"

"I heard that that kid is quite strange, instead of working in a healer's clinic he had been training all along in the Adventurer's Guild."

" ... To yearn to be an adventurer even though he received powers from the gods, what exactly is the Meratoni branch doing?"

"That kid, just after registering for a year his Holy attribute magic was already level V, he has been called as both a genius as well as a maverick. In addition, I heard that he has various other terrible nicknames."

" ... About that healer, is he lanky and tall, a man with delicate features?"

"I don't have information to that extent. Just that there was a report that when he registered with the Healer's Guild he couldn't even use 「Heal」."

" ... I know that healer."

"Really?! Do you know what kind of person is he?"

"I remember that his magical power waves were very clear. Although I felt his cowardice, I also felt his vigour."

"It's rare to hear Lumina praise somebody to that extent."

"... I am only saying the facts."

"I pray that that kid is good kid."

"Shall I investigate?"

"That's right. Since Granhart is in-charge, I'll let you know too when he arrives."

"Understood."

More than half a year passed after that conversation.

"Well then, everyone go have your lunch."

『Yes!』

I returned to my room.

Although the expedition schedule has not been released, due to the recent military strengthening by the Empire, my squad will most likely be dispatched.

While thinking about that, the magic communication ball lit up and I placed it on my hand to listen.

This is a splendid magic tool that can bridge the distance between the owner and the other person whose magical power was recorded.

《He has arrived.》

《He?》

《The boy from Meratoni we talked about before.》

《Ah. Is he heading towards Granhart-dono's place?》

《Yes.》

《Understood. I will make contact.》

《Thank you.》

Thus I hurried towards Granhart's place.

Seeing Granhart-dono's figure, I was shocked to see the youth walking with him. From the lanky figure he had in the past, he had bulked up to look like an adventurer, not looking inferior to the priest knight Granhart-dono alongside him.

While feeling shocked, I noticed that his magical power waves had not changed from that time so I called out while feeling relieved.

"Oh? You were the one I inducted into Meratoni city's Healer's Guild ... Louis-kun right?"

"Oh, long time no see. Lumina-sama. And my name is Luciel. Even though my physique has changed, it's pretty amazing that you immediately knew it was me?"

Somehow it looks like I remembered his name wrongly ... Well it doesn't look like it matters.

"Because the waves of your magical power is clear, I remembered it."

Ah, shit. I inadvertently said that I could visualize magical power.

"Thank you for your help in Meratoni. Somehow I became able to perform some novice treatment after this two years."

Luciel-kun showed totally no interest in my ability to see magic.

Somehow I feel like I've lost.

"I see I see. I don't have time now so please come to my room later."

After informing him, I continued while mixing in something just for Granhart-dono's ears.

"Granhart-dono (Katria-sama has expressed interest in him) , please get somebody to guide him to my room later."

" ... Yes."

Granhart-dono's expression stiffened, looks like his acting sucks. Just like that I waited for him to come to my room.

Before going to my room, "Elizabeth, for afternoon practice I will pair up with ... that's right Lucy should be fine. We will join the practice a bit later. You guys please start training first."

"Yes, madam."

Elizabeth said and left for the training grounds.

"Lumina-sama, who will be coming over?"

"Yeah. Someone I got to know recently but not to the extent of

being friends."

After boiling water and finishing the preparations for tea, I heard a knock.

"Lumina-sama, it is Luciel who you met earlier. I came to visit you as soon as possible."

I allowed him to enter. I thought that he had grown up from being ignorant as he knew to knock but when he entered the room he stiffened.

"Is something the matter?"

"I just came from a room with Granhart-dono before coming to Lumina-sama's room, the difference between the two stunned me for a moment."

If that's the case I'm convinced. He would have definitely been brought to an interrogation room.

"Fufufu. No wonder. It can't be helped if you came from that room."

"Do you know the reason why I was transferred to this place ... to this church headquarters?"

Hmm? He had no idea? It should be fine to not keep this a secret

from him.

"Yeah. In short, to receive a warning from Granhart-dono."

"I see. Thank you very much for both this time and when in Meratoni."

It was weird that he totally had no wariness.

"It's fine. I had already received your thanks earlier. At the same time I'm bad with the formalities. Please be at ease."

"If you insist. By the way ... "

Because the water I boiled for the tea was going to cool down, I stopped him.

"First, have some tea and sit on that chair over there."

"Ah, yes. Thank you."

He smiled meekly as he sat on my chair.

[It's pretty stark huh~] I felt that he was thinking about that so I tried saying it first.

"You feel that it's stark right?"

"I'm sorry."

What a lucky guess. Well it was neither a compliment nor does my room look like a girl's room. I unintentionally made excuses for myself.

"No it's fine. This is only a place for me to do paperwork and sleep. I'm not here the majority of time."

"Come to think of it, I was able to learn 「Heal」 a week after we met in Meratoni. When I asked the guild for Lumina-sama's whereabouts to express my thanks, I was surprised when I heard that you had already returned to the headquarters."

"In the end my job is one that requires me to move around quite a bit. Instead of that, this time were you summoned by Granhart? Or did you transfer over?"

"This time I received a letter of appointment for transfer signed with the Pope's name."

I see. So that was how Katria-sama knew from the start.

"To be from Fluna-sama, it seems like Luciel-kun is considerably excellent."

"No, it's a little different. Actually ... "

He viewed the public opinion of the church not from the perspective of a healer but as a normal individual.

"Hmm. I see ... indeed. And so, what do you plan to do from now on?"

He most likely won't be involved in fraud but because he looks easy to deceive, I'm worried about his future.

"Hmm ... regarding that. The truth is, although I came over for the transfer, I completely have no idea what I am supposed to do."

Ignorant as usual, no in this case it would be better to say he is indifferent.

"Most likely it's up to you. You can carefreely ... Speaking of which, you mentioned that just now Granhart-dono called out to you."

"Yes. It seems like Granhart-san was called out because I used the Pope's name."

"If that's the case, Luciel-kun's work might involve a little risk."

"Seriously?"

"Yeah. However, there's no doubt that you can expect to have

career advancement."

Just like that I taught him the important points to take note with regards to the labyrinth. Of course, including the smell.

"Eh? Something like that is not a problem at all."

However, I felt that when he said that it doesn't matter, he was filled with motivation.

After he left the room I contacted Katria-sama.

《The target has left.》

《So how was it?》

《Hmm. Although he is lacking in some parts, in general personality-wise he has no problems.》

《... Do you think he can challenge the labyrinth?》

《Yeah. He gave me the impression of a fairly close combat knight.》

《Is that so? That's interesting.》

《Yes. Moreover he already has the ability to use purification

magic.》

《Then, within 2 years he raised his Holy attribute to VII?》

《Yeah. Maybe he is a considerable hard worker?》

《Understood. I will definitely meet him tomorrow so I will judge him as well.》

《Yes. Thank you.》

《If anything happens please help.》

《I understand.》

《 ... So rare.》

《What do you mean?》

《If you don't understand then it's fine. Well then Lumina, good luck with your training.》

《Thank you very much.》

I cut off the communication.

"There are even healers that temper themselves to that extent, we paladins will have to work hard too."

Thus the second chance meeting between me and the healer Luciel ended with my motivation fired up.

I, Valkyrie Paladin Corps Lumina, came to the dining hall with my subordinates Lucy and Kuina.

The purpose was to meet with the healer Luciel-kun. No it is not for love.

Yesterday, Katria-sama contacted me to tell me that the boss residing in the 10th floor boss room was defeated for the first time since decades.

Of course, that person was Luciel-kun. However, according to Katria-sama it seemed like he was trying to capture the labyrinth in a considerably reckless manner.

She told me that and asked for my help.

That is why I was now waiting for when he would arrive.

"Lumina-sama, are we not going to the dining hall?"

"Indeed just standing here is ..."

Lucy and Kuina do not know about Luciel so it can't be helped.

Just as I thought that Luciel finally arrived.

"Luciel"

Lucy called out to him so I had no choice but to proceed to the dining hall together.

"Good morning. Lumina-sama, Lucy-san. Also, this is the first time we've met, good morning. I am Luciel."

"Good morning Luciel-kun."

"Morning."

" Good morning. My name is Kuina and I'm assigned to Lumina-sama's unit."

"Once again, nice to meet you. Kuina-san. Is everyone on their way to

breakfast as well?"

"Yeah. We always take our breakfast after we finish with our morning training."

"I see. I was slightly later than usual today so we actually met each other."

"By the way, it has only been 10 days but I heard that you are now being listed as a veteran as well."

"Ah~ about that ... I've been reflecting on that since yesterday."

"Fumu. If it's alright with you, tell me about that. How about we have breakfast together."

"Yes. By all means, please."

Umu. With someone just 1 year younger than him, Luciel can speak more easily.

Thus I heard from Luciel about what happened yesterday.

"But I heard that your exploration of the labyrinth up until the 10th floor was going strangely smoothly?"

"Yes. It's embarrassing but because I trained at the Adventurer's Guild for 2 years, even after entering the labyrinth I somehow made do."

"Was it the first time you fought with monsters."

"Yeah. Up until now all I did was train."

"If that's the case then there shouldn't be much points to reflect on?"

"Although I was nervous in the beginning, as I slowly advanced instead of purification magic, I channelled magic into my sword and spear, and I defeated them by cutting and stabbing even though there wasn't any feedback."

" ... What are your sword and spear rank?"

"Because yesterday's incident happened it increased to II."

" ... Previously you mentioned sword and spear but do you challenge the labyrinth by changing your weapons every day?"

"Eh? I wasn't doing something so troublesome. Because I wanted to have more moves available I used a short spear with my left hand and a one-handed sword with my right hand."

" ... Is that so. Please continue."

"Yes. For the record, after my exploration to the 10th floor ended after 10 days, I fought with the sword and spear when there were few monsters and fought with purification magic if there was a crowd. I heard that a large crowd of monsters appear at where the boss resides so I proceeded without being too eager."

Just like the information an uncountable number of undead was there, I figured that I would be okay somehow so I began combat but I realised that I could not use magic. I began to be impatient. From then on I attacked by brandishing my sword and spear and the battle continued.

I was bitten and scratched but somehow I defeated all the monsters."

"That must have been tough. Could you recover from your injuries using potions?"

"Ah~ Now that you mentioned it, it would have been easier if I had potions."

"Ha?"

"Hahaha. Up until then I had never used a potion so I went without carrying any potions."

"... Wasn't potions recommended to you?"

"It was, but it was quite expensive so I thought I didn't need it. And then I was shocked when a Wight appeared."

"... Did you take out your shield then? I would expect that you applied barrier magic so you should be okay."

" ... No~ Because I didn't apply barrier magic so it was tough when I got surrounded in the boss room. Honestly if I had not experience being slashed and poked in the Adventurer's Guild, I might have given up there.

Also, if I knew that a Wight would appear ... or that I wouldn't be able to use magic, I would have went with a method slightly more efficient than flinging myself against the enemy."

" ... I see. Even though you knew you would meet a boss, you went in without carrying any healing items nor did you apply barrier magic ... I'm surprised you won."

"That's right. I didn't think that the bow I bought the previous day would become a clue to victory."

"Even so to advance until the 10th floor in 10 days. Have you been taking breaks properly? In addition you had to train as well."

"Eh? I didn't take any breaks. I wanted to clear the labyrinth as soon as possible, and for training I was slashing zombies every day so it's okay. Ah, I did continue to conduct fundamental magic training though."

" ... Incidentally when did you start using the sword and spear combat style?"

"Since the day I entered the labyrinth."

I finally understood Luciel-kun after seeing him like this. He is a person who is missing common sense. Without noticing my mouth was left hanging. No, not only me but even Lucy and Kuina as well.

"... Just what in the world did you think you were doing?"

"Are you looking for death?"

"It's stupidity. You were just lucky. Normally you would have died."

"Ah~ and here I thought that you have graduated from being ignorant after much difficulties, you went and did something so reckless this time."

"For what it's worth, I've been doing a one-person reflection for half a day since yesterday, so please forgive me this time. My spirit is already crumbling right now."

Even if your spirit crumbles, without changing your roots you will die. Just as I wanted to say that, Lucy spoke up.

"So what do you want to do now?"

"I plan to return back to Meratoni to train myself and become stronger."

My eyes clouded over as I looked into the distance and sighed. However,

"As a general rule for healers, without a written order transfers from the headquarters is not allowed."

That's right. It would not be so easily accepted. Moreover there's what Katria-sama told me, maybe I should have him participate in training.

"If you want to train, I think I can help."

"Eh? Really?"

"Yeah. I think it will be hard for a healer, but it is possible for you to join the training of paladins. However, do not expect individual guidance."

"... Could I request that it does not interfere with my exploration of the labyrinth?"

"Umu. Then once a week on the day of fire we will have an intense training."

"Yes. I look forward to training with you."

Thus it was decided that Luciel would join in the training of my Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

After Luciel's meal ended we headed to training.

Lucy asked as we made our way.

"Was it a wise choice to let him participate in our training?"

"It will be fine. Because he is a healer, he is remarkable weaker than us paladins and his statuses are low. I heard that when he came here he was only level 1 but he should have become slightly stronger by now."

"But even so I don't think he would be able to keep up with our training."

"That is possible. But according to the reports he trained in martial arts continuously for 2 years without any rest days. Our paladin corps has now become the strongest small elite squad because of our hard work.

The number of individuals who can put in that level of effort is unfortunately very small within the church headquarters. Of course after putting him through our training once, if he is only a man of such low capabilities then we will discard him. Okay?"

『Yes!』

Thus I told the other members of the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and

we greeted the scheduled training day.

Maybe fundamentally Luciel only has interest in himself, or just that he is really dense, but never in my dreams did I imagine that I would see a healer treat paladins as girls.

Everyone in the squad thought so as well. We have even been treated as monsters but to have a guy hesitate to attack us was a first.

Just like that, maybe because they were delighted to be treated as girls, everyone took to Luciel favourably.

Even though he knew that we had greater abilities than him, I was shocked that he could say that not just for appearances but with genuine feelings, and it didn't feel bad.

Among the healers, Luciel should be one of the stronger ones. That is without a doubt.

However, compared to us he is markedly weaker. But, is there any meaning for him to use that style?

There wasn't any meaning, so I had him hold a stance with a sword and shield, and he became slightly more acceptable. Since his skill level II was already like this, it looks like his mentor is a considerable warrior.

His swordsmanship was also not bad. But his combat sense was not high. If that's the case then I can focus on training that aspect of him.

Although even with training there would not be much of a significant change. At the point he was set to swing his sword I jabbed out with my fist.

At that moment, he smiled. That's right he smiled. Right when my fist collided he was bathed in a pale light and I saw the swung out sword return towards me.

Did he aim for this? A healer? In the first place, to be able to chant while swinging a sword and moving around, I bow down to the inconceivable amount of time he spent working hard to achieve this.

It can't be helped. I shall also answer in kind.

"Splendid!"

Behind him, I landed a chop towards the back of his neck and he fell unconscious right at that spot.

"Okay. Everyone saw that right. This is a healer with low status parameters whose basic attributes are even lower than that of magicians. We have higher status and our skill levels rise more easily and we still put in effort, but we do not put in extraordinary

effort.

It is a shame that the other priest knights and paladins don't even put in effort. He is an outstanding talent that defeated the 10th floor boss in 10 days. As long as the labyrinth remains, Katria-sama will never return. That is why we will drill him.

Are there any objections? None. Then we will restart the training."

After early morning training ended, we ate our meals and training resumed.

Unexpectedly the toughness of Luciel's uniform and balanced barrier magic was on par with that of veteran healers. Due to that, nobody anticipated that the assigned team that attacked first would end up losing and Luciel's evaluation further increased.

The training progressed smoothly and only training exercises remained but that was where it happened.

"Now then squad, from the nearby forest until the wilderness, we will now begin exterminating monsters. Everybody prepare your horses and assemble."

『Yes (? ... yes?)』

I had a slightly bad feeling from the weird reply from Luciel.

"Was there something you didn't understand?"

"Yes. I mean up until now I have never experienced riding a horse."

" ... That is truly out of my expectations."

I completely forgot. Supposedly he was a villager. If that's the case then even if he had seen a horse before, he wouldn't have touched or ridden on one before.

However, a typical healer even when young would have earned quite a sum of money so many of them own horses. Moreover to think that he had the physique of a knight but had not ridden on a horse before.

Well this was a honest mistake on my part.

"There's no helping it. Luciel-kun go ask the stable management personnel how to ride a horse and practice. Because once we proceed with the training exercise there will be onlookers."

"I apologize for the inconvenience."

"Don't worry. It's because I did not consider it as well. You can conduct your horse riding training here. That's because when our exercise has ended we will return here."

"Understood. Please don't worry and set out."

"Right. We will guide you to the stables. Okay, everybody advance."

Thus we left for the training exercise and he stayed for horsemanship training.

During the journey to the training exercise, I talked about his background up until now. Everyone chimed in with delighted voices because there was now a maverick within the healers, which were the main reason why the church's reputation was dropping.

Thus we drilled him until the point where we had to leave him to set out on an expedition.

And then when we departed for an expedition we received sparse applause as usual, but just this time, there was a single call from the streets to "Work hard".

It was even more terrific than the time Katria-sama kicked-off a departure while at the forefront.

And then we heard voices call out zombie, masochist and deviant saint healer.

I searched for his magical power. Even though it was from afar,

he properly came to send us off.

When I told everyone that this was the work of Luciel, everyone understood.

Filled with the surprise that he is now the most popular healer in the Holy City, our hearts became lighter and our moods were uplifted. With energy flowing into our bodies we aimed for the national borders.

Chapter 28: Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day

The battle with Undead attribute monsters continued. It would have been impossible for normal people due to deteriorating health and the bad odour. Maybe there really hasn't been anybody who had cleared this. However, can't people like Instructor Broad or Lumina-san who can move at a speed that I can't follow successfully clear this?

Now that I think about it, it has been quite easy up to here.

Maybe the reason why the previous expedition failed was because of their large numbers being susceptible to skills like confusion or mental collapse?

Maybe that's why I can advance all alone.

I attacked with a sword, searching for a gap in the opponent's habits to add in sneak attacks.

"I initially thought that the undead do not feel pain but it looks like that is not the case right? Having a sense of pain, how is sensei's body holding up? Hmm sensei?"

During the clash of swords, I who obtained cheat equipments blocked the sword with my shield and channelled magical power into my feet before kicking sensei at his left flank.

『Gooo~』 The Specter Knight cried out, before slamming into the

labyrinth wall.

It will soon be 3 months since I shut myself in the labyrinth.

For the sake of refreshing myself, I exit the labyrinth once a week to talk with Katria-san and refresh my horsemanship training.

Although I have currently captured the labyrinth until the 30th floor, I had not proceeded to the boss room.

"Thank you for the hard work. How's your condition lately?"

"I can finally win against the Specter Knight. However, against multiple opponents, if that appears then I think I will still have a tough battle."

"I see. By the way you don't intend to class up?"

"Yeah. Thinking of the reward I would get when I someday clear the labyrinth, I still wish to continue working hard." (TL: I think class up meant like going from cleric to priest etc so he wouldn't be assigned to be an exorcist for the labyrinth anymore after that)

"Fufufu. You are pretty stubborn."

"Yeah. Well I plan to enter the 30th floor boss room sometime soon."

"I won't say cliché words like 'Good luck' but don't die okay."

"Haha. Of course."

"So you're going in again?"

"No, I have something I wish to buy so I'll go out temporarily. Oh yeah any news regarding the Valkyrie Paladin Corps?"

"Sounds like they aren't having any problems. But it seems like it is impossible that they would be told to remain still."

"Well there's no way they'll discard healers to the front lines."

"Yeah. But those girl's lives are more valuable than those greedy healers."

"I am a healer as well but I think so too."

"... Ara, now that you've mentioned it you are a healer."

"... Hahaha."

"Lately I've heard them call you as Sir Deviant Saint so I ended up thinking that you were a paladin."

"Please give me a break."

"Fufufu. So what will you be doing on this holiday?"

"I'll visit the Adventurer's Guild, buy some food from the food market after that and once again dive into the labyrinth."

"Are you sure you won't become funny from fighting so many undead?"

"No I won't. Maybe it's because I have the mental resistance skill?"

"Don't overdo it."

"That's becoming your favourite phrase. I'm off."

"Take care."

Within these 3 months I did not meet anybody who came looking for me as an adversary.

Firstly, because my physique had become pretty much like the appearance of a knight, I no longer look like a healer.

Next, because I tied my hair due to it becoming longer, even if they had seen my face when I was with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, they wouldn't recognize me now.

Well there were pranks done on my room but that's all there was to it.

Oh, while lost in thought, I've reached the Adventurer's Guild.

"Good afternoon."

After I entered and greeted, the master came out.

"Oh Deviant Saint-sama. Did you come here for that today? Or is today a day for healing?"

"Why are you always in the kitchen?"

"Ah. I found out that that is running out soon. Also, didn't you say that you would take a day off once a week?"

"Good job remembering something from a month ago."

"Keh. If I forget something like that from someone who does so much for us, I would lose my qualifications as guild master."

"Then why are you at the kitchen?"

"It's my hobby."

"Is that so ... I'm sorry for the rush but please prepare 10 barrels of that. After that ...

"Ah Deviant Saint-sama"

"Ah, good afternoon Milty-san. Please gather the injured people downstairs."

"Understood."

"I'll go make preparations as well."

Thus both of them left for the underground and the kitchen respectively.

Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day. (TL: It is like those national holidays like Christmas or Thanksgiving Day etc.) How did such a day come to be? Since the day the nickname 'Deviant Saint' was coined, I accept nomination requests from the Adventurer's Guild once a month.

The price was set as 1 silver coin plus any information and mock battles with the adventurers. In order to know my own abilities I fought and received advice.

Unexpectedly, it seemed like losing to a healer was humiliating to adventurers, so newbies and low rankers began to desperately train and practice. Apparently due to that the mortality rate and cases of failed missions dramatically decreased.

Currently, I could fight with multiple E rank and D rank adventurers without losing but I would not be able to win either.

If I fought 1-on-1 against a D rank I would win. It was around that level.

Seeing that, those above B rank began training their fundamentals again and apparently even when the monsters became active nobody came back with life-threatening injuries.

Also, it seems that the day before the Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day, everyone takes on high rank requests and lately high rank monsters were being defeated one by one.

Somehow I was the core reason for this virtuous cycle and I have immense popularity among the adventurers here.

The source of all these information were the tavern master-cum-guild master, Granz-san and waitress-cum-assistant guild master Milty-san.

Nevertheless, was the Adventurer's Guild doing fine with those 2 people as the top? I began to doubt that.

"Oh, Deviant Saint-sama long time no see."

"Ah, Elitz-dono, long time no see."

"Have that become slightly of use to you?"

"Yeah. But I still find it difficult to control."

"Shouldn't it be a piece of cake with such a high level in magical power manipulation? Also, are you still level 1?"

"Yeah. That's because I'm still not defeating any monsters."

"Hah~ What a waste. Even though you are such an outrageous raw diamond to be able to fight to such a degree."

"I'm only doing this because I don't want to die. Rather than that, is it true that there is a famous story saying that if you circulate magical power within your body at high speed it raises physical abilities?"

"Yeah. But if you can't manipulate magical power then there's no need to try that."

"Heh~."

"By the way, recently that person who lost to Deviant Saint-sama ..."

Just like that while talking with the guild's A rank Elitz, I stored Object X into my magic bag, and once again cast 「Area High Heal」,

「Purification」, 「Recover」and 「Dispel」 onto the people who needed them.

Following that I obtained information regarding Meratoni and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps, did some mock battles and visited the food market. After that I ordered a meal with large portions in the Adventurer's Guild such that people exclaimed that I have a large appetite, before I returned full of energy to the Healer's Guild.

"Well then let's go." Thus I set the 10th floor boss room as my sleeping ground today and rested there.

Incidentally, regardless of defeating the undead using magic or magical attack, I realised that my Holy magic attribute proficiency increases, and it increases in proportion to my enthusiasm. However reaching level IX, and let alone level X, would be a long term task.

"Once my body's strengthening becomes slightly more smooth, I will challenge the 30th floor boss."

Chapter 29: Training Outcome? Battle With The 30th Floor Boss

I woke up, stretched and had my breakfast with Object X before getting pumped up and resuming my labyrinth capture.

I learned the orthodox method of using a sword and shield from Specter Knight-sensei, and fought with large crowds in the 10th floor boss room to eliminate my wasteful movements and promote the improvement of my judgements.

I also handled the continuous attacks from ghouls, mummies, ghosts, skeleton swordsman and skeleton archers until the 30th floor.

In this manner I spent 3 months of my time. (TL: This is the same 3 months mentioned in the previous chapter.)

People can adapt to their environments. In the beginning, although I received quite a number of wounds but I could heal them. I also defeated the opponents before suffering mortal injuries so that I could leisurely heal myself.

Also my efforts were small each time, I believe that it accumulates and turns into experience.

Although I did not complain about having no progress for 3 months, but not advancing my goal of steadily clearing the game started to cause my heart to ache looking at my acquired cheat

items.

"Haaaa, naive, eat this!"

With my ultra-aggressive dual sword spear style, regular sword and shield style, plus currently my kicks was also a great weapon, even if I got surrounded in the 30th floor I would at most suffer light injuries.

The largest reasons for victory were that the undead attacks are all executed in a linear manner, and if my attacks hit them squarely, they would disappear like fog and turn into magic stones.

I had accumulated a large amount of P from diving. During a regular restock of weapons, I've heard that the dwarfs could manufacture made-to-order weapons for me in exchange for P.

Furthermore, I could purchase a good performance magic robe which costs 10 white gold coins made from materials with higher magic resistance compared to the robe I received from the headquarters with just 2 million P?

I had that in consideration when I bought it but until now I had not been hit by any magic so in reality I had no idea if there was any difference.

Although I've never met the dwarfs, I heard all this from Katria-san. Apparently they were willing to do so because they thought it was interesting that I'm a close combat healer but my true feelings

were that I hope no strange rumours begin circulating without my knowledge.

"Well there are people who are cheering for me and I think I have become slightly stronger but within the span of 3 months I had not levelled up so there wasn't any large leaps. Although Instructor Broad told me to not be manipulated by my status."

However, I was thankful with respect to this training that allowed me to attack all I want without danger to my mental condition compared to when slashing living monsters or bandits.

While having such worries, 3 days later I carried out my final preparations in front of the 30th floor boss room.

"Weapons, good. Armour, good. Magic bag, good. Applied magic, good. Object X, good."

I gulped down Object X in one breath.

"Puuuu. Well then let's go."

I slowly opened the door to the 30th floor boss room.

I entered while remaining vigilant towards the darkness. After the door was shut, the light let up and although the size was the same compared to the other boss rooms, instead of a square-shape room, the room was cone-shaped.

However, I currently did not have room to consider such things.

That was because ...

"Seriously." I muttered at the sight caught in my eyes.

Within the boss room, 3 Wights and 5 Specter Knights with flashing red eyes glared at my direction, waiting and poised to strike.

I made the first move.

I chanted purification magic while taking some distance by running along the bank of the cone-shaped room in order to avoid being surrounded by all of them, together with the intent to fend off concentrated attacks.

I casted purification magic and further weaved in another cast of purification magic, but the setting wasn't so easy that one of them would disappear with just that.

However, after casting their bodies became rigid and stopped. At that moment I threw daggers with magic channelled into them hoping that I could reduce their numbers.

It pierced the head of the Specter Knights but those aimed towards the Wights were deflected by the shields of the Specter

Knights.

Each of the Wights chanted magic using their canes but because I was constantly on the move they did not hit. In order to protect the Wights, the Specter Knights also couldn't move from the center of the room. Because of that no large scale magic was used.

Although I began with the strategy to not get surrounded, surely my luck ... no Great Luck-sensei was invoked.

After casting purification magic for a total of 5 times, I felt that the miasma spread within the room weakened. Wanting to try it once, I strengthened my body and while casting the 6th purification magic, I plunged into the group of monsters clustered in the center of the room.

The monsters caught me but because purification magic was in place none of them launched a suicide attack at me.

I believed that divine protection from the god of fate boosted my 「Great Luck」.

The 3 Wights each shot magic from the center and the Specter Knights only readied their shields.

The great magic barrier on my robe and paladin armour did a good job.

Instead of large scale magic, black water, wind and earth spears

were cast towards me but I paid no heed to them and I began my assault while relying on my shield to prevent fatal injuries.

When I closed the distance, this time instead of magic, the Specter Knights attacked with physical attacks but I had comparatively more room to relax with this.

Deflecting the second attack with my shield, all the monsters had entered my magic's range.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, shelter everything and heal everyone, Area High Heal.】

The magic that I wanted to try was 「Area High Heal」.

Compared to purification magic, it's effect was terrific.

The monsters all screamed in agony.

With canes, swords and shields dropped, their screaming appearance looked as if I was torturing them. Although I felt unpleasant, I did not throw away the greatest opportunity given to me.

While chanting 「Area High Heal」 again, I approached the Wights and channelled magical power into my sword to sever its head, before swinging my sword in a straight line, splitting it in half.

I repeated this 3 times, before once again casting 「Area High Heal」. I buried the Specter Knights in one breath ... or specifically, without me cutting them, the Specter Knights all screamed even louder before forcefully melting and leaving behind their magic stones and items.

"HaaHaaHaa. Wasn't that pretty much a complete victory?"

While I regained my breath, I drank a magic potion and immediately cast purification magic on the dropped items.

"It would be bad if that dark purple smoke from when they disappear is miasma. However, it's really great that I could finally use the Holy attribute magic 「Area High Heal」. If not I would have died from the very beginning."

This time the battle was a complete victory because everything proceeded in the best direction. I told myself that.

"Indeed, if I normally face this number of opponents, it would most likely be game over."

I collected all the weapons, armours, accessories and magic stones.

After doing so, as per usual the door leading downwards opened and a flight of stairs appeared.

"However, I understood from this battle that the Specter Knights found in the labyrinth passageways are rookie soldiers and the boss room ones are the real thing or I mean veteran knights. So even Specter Knights have ranks?" I murmured such carefree stuff.

"For the time being I've reached until here. The setting was that in the past the church's knight team usually also reached here as well. I think they said that after this dangerous monsters appear? I wonder if there are treasure chests or key items?"

While I still continued thinking of it as a game, "Somehow after coming to this world, I have been living a life like a monk in training fighting evil spirits." While muttering so, I began eating from my bento.

After finishing my meal I went to the 31st floor and got surprised by the appearance of different coloured ghouls with increased agility. Taking the stairs back to the boss room, there were 5 Specter Knights present.

Thus with the number of Specter Knight-sensei with abilities equal to or greater than mine, I decided to make this my training field from today onward and as I exited the labyrinth my stomach clock rang.

Challenging the labyrinth, I had successfully subjugated the 30th floor boss on the 128th day.

Chapter 30: Third Negotiation Audience With The Pope And Object X

After returning from the labyrinth, Katria-san called out to me first.

"Welcome back. That expression ... Well firstly thank you for returning safely."

"Please stop doing that. If Katria-san who always takes care of me bows her head to me, I'll feel uncomfortable."

"Fufufu. Really?"

"Please stop with those mischievous eyes. Well then first of all, please convert my magic stones into points."

"Mou. I wanted you to let me tease you a little bit more."

Even while saying that Katria-san had already taken my card and was moving the magic stones into her bag. That's right Katria-san had always used a magic bag with greater capabilities compared to mine to perform P conversion.

"It's really amazing this time. 426,549P."

"It was quite good. Nevertheless, this time could really be expressed with the bold letters 'Seriously' bad. Without 「Area High

Heal」 I would have really died."

" ... To be able to cast 「Area High Heal」 at such an age, Luciel-kun are you sure you didn't falsify your age?"

" ... Eh? But when I registered at 15 years old I couldn't even cast 「Heal」?"

"Or did you dabble with things like dubious drugs."

"There's no way I would ... Ah?!"

"Let's cleanse you by confessing your sins in front of the Pope."

My arm had been firmly caught.

"I was thinking of going there as well. I have something on my mind so please bring me to the Pope this time as well."

"Ara? Somehow you've become more aggressive. Was it because you finally defeated the 30th floor boss?"

"No. This time I just hope that the Pope knows anything regarding something that I have been drinking for more than 2 years."

" ... That's very different from what I had in mind."

"That's because I feel like I'm very close to solving a 2 year long mystery."

"I feel that the tension is somewhat higher as well. Perhaps you really almost died?"

"Hahaha. I was actually surprised at how the situation turned out. This time, I succeeded with no damage taken only because luck was on my side, allowing me to realise that Holy magic is effective against the Undead. If not for that, I might have died."

"Luciel-kun, it's a bad omen to keep saying that you will die so please stop."

"I was saying it figuratively. Sorry."

"Well then should we go?"

"Let's go."

We continued our conversation while we walked.

"So then what monsters appeared this time?"

"3 Wights and 5 Specter Knights appeared and I truly thought that I would die. I was saved thanks to the fact that somehow I reached level VIII and became capable of using「Area High Heal」.

But I am afraid that eventually beast-type undead like Undead Dragons and Dullahans would eventually appear."

"I see. By the way dragons are classified as fairies and not as undead so Holy magic would not have any effect on them."

" ... Seriously?! I pray that this doesn't become a flag." (TL: In Japanese gaming terminology a flag (in this case a death flag or an encounter flag) is where a certain event is triggered by a certain choice made in a game; in this case by him mentioning about undead dragons he's hoping that he won't end up really encountering it)

"Flag?"

"Don't mind me."

"By the way what have you been drinking?"

"Some extremely stinky and disgusting drink called Object X from the Adventurer's Guild. They said that it was made for the adventurer's by some sage in the past but have you heard of it?"

"Nope I've never heard of it. Is it well known?"

"Yes. Up to the point that I received nicknames because I continued to drink it."

" ... That seems fairly intense. Even so ... Your holiness it is Katria."

"Umu. Enter."

"Yes!"

Thus my third negotiation audience with the Pope began.

Katria-san and I knelt down and bowed our heads down before the Pope spoke up.

"Is today's matter regarding the 30th floor boss?"

"Yes. It is regarding the matter that he defeated the 30th floor boss."

"Umu. Thank you for your hard work. Even so, to reach the 30th floor on your own, you have exceeded my expectations."

"Thank you very much. This was also thanks to the equipment and tools I've received."

"Hohou. However that is unlikely to be the only reason. I've heard that you have high magical powers as well."

"I have something to report with regards to that. Apparently he

has been drinking something called Object X said to be made by a sage."

"This is it." I extracted the barrel of Object X from my magic bag.

"?! Put that back immediately!"

"... Ugh, is that poison?"

Huh? Was it that smelly? Not only Katria-san, even the maids had frowns on their faces.

"No, it comes from a magic tool made by a sage-sama from a deal with the Adventurer's Guild. Between adventurers they talk of it as something that even monsters wouldn't approach."

"There was such a thing? Wait ... What is the official name for that?"

"I've only heard it called as Object X. It is something that novice adventurers must be able to drink."

"... Maybe, that is not Object X but the pill developed by the adventurers made by mixing various herbs, the heart of a dragon, water from the spirits, root of the world tree and other items, and they somehow developed a magic tool capable of making something similar but for some reason it became a liquid so they renamed it. No, if that is the case then it shouldn't be named Object X. Supposedly during the time when it was a pill, the

assigned name was tasteless so the inventor renamed it as God's Grief. That should have been written down in literature."

It was without a doubt a cheat item. But the world would have been fine without such a strange item.

"That liquid form of God's Grief, Object X might be the source of my success. True, it is so disgusting that even the gods would lament it, the sense of taste and smell would be damaged for 1 hour after consuming it and there is even slight amounts of poison mixed in. However, I've learned that the body's immunity is capable of detoxifying the poison such that the poison doesn't accumulate. I drink a mug of this in undiluted form after breakfast, lunch and dinner. I started drinking this 2 and a half years ago and I may have reached this stage thanks this."

I lightly tapped the barrel of Object X kept within my magic bag.

"... Have you really been drinking that?"

"Yes. That's because this a world that one loses life easily. I wouldn't feel at ease without doing things that can be done to prevent that. Without any risks, if just by drinking it one can become stronger then of course I drank it. Ah, with the exception of the nicknames gained and pitying gazes obtained from drinking this."

I felt slightly sad when I said that.

"I understand. Your extraordinary growth was due to your hard work and suffering."

" ... Luciel-kun is amazing." Oh? Katria-san has returned to normal.

"Umu. If that's the case then there's no issue. Although the sage had really neglected to think about how it would turn out taste and smell-wise."

I totally agree.

"Well then, what were the monsters this time?"

"Yes. 3 Wights and 5 Specter Knights. I defeated them while on the run using 「Area High Heal」."

"Hou. To be able to reach such heights at such a young age, you might one day even ascend to the rank of Archbishop."

"I will work hard."

"Well then take them out."

I took out all the items I picked up and passed them over to the maids.

As usual, the Pope looked at the items handed over by the maids and suddenly muttered.

"This belongs to those 3 girls ... That's enough for today. I will pass the rewards to Katria, good luck with the labyrinth capture."

Her voice sounded slightly stiff and gloomy. Looks like it was a setting with those 3 being her acquaintances. (TL: He still thinks that they are acting out the setting for the 'game' = labyrinth he is assigned to clear)

After leaving the Pope's room, I went to the dining hall for the first time in a long time.

"Ah, oneesan, long time no see. Please give me a generous serving for today's dinner."

"Erm knight-sama, how much do you desire?"

The oddly stiff manner of speech left question marks hanging above my head.

"What is with that manner of speech? I am Luciel."

I checked my surroundings before quietly whispering. Obachan stiffened, before her face thawed out and was replaced with a gentle expression. (TL: Obachan = aunty)

"Ohhh so it was Luciel-kun. With your hair tied up and your equipped armour, I totally had no idea who you were. I will immediately go prepare your food."

After that the kitchen was fairly hectic. "Thank you for waiting. Eat up and regain your energy." A plate that had slightly more than my usual was prepared for me.

"It looks delicious. Great job."

"Thanks for the compliment. I'll pass it on to the others."

"Thank you. I'll leave it up to you the next time as well."

After taking a seat and while having my warm meal, I thought "Do the waiters here have it tough? They look so tense."

"Thank you for the delicious meal. I'll be back tomorrow."

"Then I'll prepare plenty tomorrow."

"Yeah. Thank you."

I conversed with obachan and returned to my room.

"There hasn't been any harassments, maybe everyone knows that I do not stay here. Maybe they can't openly challenge me because

not only is it impossible to intimidate using force within the church headquarters, I have also had multiple audiences with the Pope."

While I considered that, I read the magic spell books for the first time in a long time and concentrated on fundamental magic training before falling asleep at the place I laid down upon.

The next morning, I had a filling meal and collected my bento. Right when I wanted to enter the labyrinth, Katria-san was unusually already there.

"Katria-san, good morning."

"Good morning. Luciel-kun the Pope gave you this ..."

A piece of parchment was handed to me.

"This is?"

"It seems like records of God's Grief, or Object X's, effects."

God's Grief aka Object X was written in detail.

"There's quite a lot written down, oh well. I'll be entering the labyrinth then."

"Good luck. If you have any troubles come discuss them with me."

" ... ? Okay. Thank you."

Katria-san had unusually displayed eyes with pity and quickly hid them away or was it my imagination?

I thought about that as I entered the labyrinth.

After defeating the monsters from the 1st floor to the 20th floor, right before sleeping I read the parchment I received and got a shock.

Below is word for word what was recorded in literature regarding God's Grief aka Object X.

There was a trend that the occupations related to the church like knights, healers and priests was on the decline due to mankind's three greatest desires, the desire to sleep, the desire to eat and the desire for sexual pleasure.

Although I feel immensely regretful that I was forced to name it God's Grief, I created this remedy so that they would not be treated unfairly in this world and so that they would not lose the joy of living as people.

The effects are increased appetite, increased sexual desire and activated autonomic nervous system. As a by-product, I learnt that

various abnormal status resistances are gained, and dormant cells are activated resulting in various statuses becoming easier to rise.

When I introduced it to the church, I was consecutively criticised for the smell so it was deemed inappropriate by church and disposed of.

I was depressed. At that moment the Adventurer's Guild headquarter's master Crius was interested in its effects and wanted to make newbies drink it.

Thus my research was instead harnessed by the Adventurer's Guild.

I've decided to concentrate all my research into one day developing a remedy that can be introduced to the church as well.

Subsequently within the church, every time the sage-sama made a new adjustment to the remedy it released a nasty odour, so the therapeutic medicine was never completed.

After I finished reading I understood. That pitying eyes from Katria-san was because she saw me as an asexual (TL: no sexual desire. She thought that he had low sexual desire so he drank Object X to boost it). Wait.

And then I realised, I could converse with females and I do have interest in them but I've never felt horny.

"Note to self, once I clear the labyrinth, I will go fall in love with someone." I somehow mustered energy from my tired body, only after reaching the 30th floor did I finally recover from my shock.

The next day, while exploring the 31st floor, I also had combat with the Specter Knight squad. Incidentally they disappear with only 1 cast of purification magic so, without being unreasonable, I gradually increased the numbers that I faced and I began training within my labyrinth training ground.

Chapter 31: The Steadily Advancing Exploration And The Disaster In Holy City Schull

People do not grow that quickly. No matter how strong the desire.

Even a protagonist from a tale works hard to advance forward, struggles with his own weaknesses, experiences various hardships in the world, and grows by overcoming all of that.

With some luck added in, the story advances quickly, the protagonist powers up and becomes capable of easily winning against formidable enemies that he had trouble fighting against until now.

I spent 1 month to finish exploring the comparatively wider 31st to 40th floor.

Although just now I spoke of the success stories of protagonists from stories, I think that I differ slightly because of Great Luck-sensei.

Due to all the maps that I've been drawing until now, I now feel like the maps are all floating inside my head as I recalled all the times 「Great Luck」was triggered in the past 1 month.

Instead of me, monsters walked into traps and showed me the location of the traps. Just when I thought that there weren't any

treasure chests, I found one and while considering if it was a trap, I nervously opened it but instead what appeared was an extinct finest grade magic spell book.

Floating in the air wrapped in a black robe reminiscent of the reaper, I fought with a skeleton ghost Wraith and thought that I would face a tough battle but was instead surprised with an easy victory.

"Don't tell me because my 「Aura Coat」 and 「Mental Resistance」 increased, Darkness magic is totally ineffective against me so I can just laugh while they approach and instant kill them. I somewhat feel sorry for the developer (the Pope)."

Because I continued to drinking Object X, I can no longer be dominated mentally or by illusions. The black light released by the Wraith wrapped around my body but it just dissolves away.

I was startled when the Wraith gave an eerie smile as it floated towards me. Without shooting any magic, without showing any vigilance, just slowly approaching.

The moment I cut it, it immediately turned into smoke so I couldn't understand the Wraith's feelings but I imagined that it was something like "That's impossible!!". (TL: The Wraith thought that he was caught in its illusion so it let it's guard down)

"Being capable of advancing 10 floors in 1 month makes me feel overconfident, thinking that I've become stronger. In addition the enemies are all so predictable that it's seriously toilsome."

"This should be where the Pope created the scenario for the climax. If that's the case then there's no doubt that it will be the commanders of the paladins and priest knights from 50 years ago."

"It feels like I would get instantly killed if I proceed on here. Should I go gather information from the Adventurer's Guild first?"

I had no way to dispel the ominous feeling I had so I resigned from challenging the 40th floor boss this time.

"Welcome back."

Katria-san's friendly smile greeted me when I exited the labyrinth.

After that time I discovered the shocking truth, I returned as usual and explained to her my circumstances regarding why I drink Object X.

"Ara, is that so? Aren't you glad another strange rumour didn't start spreading around?"

Since she could say something so sinister, we had returned to our previous relationship.

"I'm back. I've reached the 40th floor."

" ... Truly amazing. What kind of monsters appeared?"

"Yeah. Wraiths, Specter Knights, mummies and ghouls. Well pretty much nothing new."

" ... Luciel-kun have you been told before that you don't have common sense?"

" ... Yes I have. Lumina-san told me so 15 minutes after I first met her."

"That's right. Although Wights are extremely strong monsters, Wraiths are monsters with a danger rating of over A rank you know?"

"I know that. But for some reason Darkness magic have totally no effect on me. It is also the same for mental attacks, maybe I have a constitution that makes it hard to affect me with abnormal statuses."

" ... Is it thanks to that?"

"Yes. Even though I've suffered from continuing to drink that, I'm thankful for it."

"And drinking that is considerably tough as well."

"Hahaha. I'm somehow feeling sad so I'll go show my face at the

Adventurer's Guild."

"Oh yeah. The Valkyrie Paladin Corps returned from their expedition. However, after reporting in they once again left on an expedition to various towns in Saint Schull."

"Eh? Isn't Lumina-sama's squad abnormally busy?"

"Yeah. But it will be over soon. Wounds can't be healed without first cutting away the pus. Luciel-kun as well if anything happens let me know."

"...?! Understood!!"

From Katria-san's chilly smile, I felt the same intimidating aura as from that time when Instructor Broad met Botacyl.

I headed towards the Adventurer's Guild.

Just as I wanted to enter the Adventurer's Guild, my robe was grabbed from behind.

"Huh?"

Turning around, there wasn't anyone behind me.

"Was it my imagination?"

I thought that was the case as I once again tried to enter but then I noticed a small beast girl grabbing on to my robe.

" ... Please let go of my robe. Can I help you?"

The girl nodded with her tear-drenched face.

"Un~. There there. For now could we enter the Adventurer's Guild first?"

The girl hesitated for a moment before nodding.

"Deviant Saint-sama, welcome to the Adventurer's Guild. We've been expecting you."

"Huh?"

I was grabbed by stalwart guys and brought to the basement.

"Deviant Saint-sama has arrived."

"Eh? Isn't that Masochistic zombie healer-sama?"

"You idiot that's a taboo nickname. Now we either call him Deviant Saint-sama or Deviant Paladin-sama."

"Thanks for the heads up. I'll keep that in mind."

"Deviant Saint-sama, please hurry."

"Oi, bring along the injured people from the city as well."

"Hey all you guys who are holding on to Deviant Saint-sama, I will drop your rank without any questions asked okay." (Master)

Somehow something huge has happened.

"Erm there's a lot of injured people huh? Erm, ah, Master, that little beast girl requested for my help in front of the guild so please help me listen to her request. She might possibly be asking for an escort."

"So you are all properly lining up now eh? Okay. It would be impossible for me to approach a little girl so, Milty, go listen to the request from that girl who caught Deviant Saint-sama outside with her sharp sense of smell." (Master)

"Understood. Deviant Saint-sama, please start your treatment from that side."

"Okay."

Thus without grasping what had happened, I treated many injured individuals in the Adventurer's Guild.

With some rest in between, I casted 「Area High Heal」 3 times as well as 「Cure」, 「Recover」 and 「Dispel」.

After about 30 minutes, treatment ended.

Ah, that's right. It's possible since I've done this. With that in mind, I made my request.

"This time, I came here to request for an investigation regarding the undead."

"Okay. I'll get some smart people to investigate. Guys, today Deviant Saint-sama won't be escaping so go defend."

『Understood!』

Thus all the treated individuals ascended the stairs at once and only a small number of staffs, Master and the beast girl remained.

"Deviant Saint-sama, I'm sorry but could I bother you to please hurry to the slums together with this girl?"

Thus in addition to not fully understanding what had happened, without reviewing what happened in the Holy City, I was swept along by multiple escorts to the slums.

Chapter 32: The Wheel Of Philanthropy

Since coming to the Holy City, I've never once taken a good look at the Holy City~ as I thought that, Eh? Come to think of it, since coming to this world have I ever had a leisurely stroll? I realised that I had never done so, not even once.

While I noticed that I've been living a life without any free time, I was at a loss for words as I advanced through the slums. I saw puddles made by copious amounts of blood in various places.

Upon coming to my senses, I dispatched orders while invoking chants to heal the injured.

Immediately after I began healing, the beast girl pulled my robe and I noticed a fainted beastman that was fully armed within the group of beastmen covered in blood.

Somehow it seemed that he was likely still alive.

When I approached him, "Look out!" I heard an exclamation and unexpectedly the unconscious beastman stabbed me at my flank with all his might.

"Ah~ It hurts. It really hurts. Ugh I've had enough. I will heal everyone at one go."

As I became teary eyed, I chanted「Area High Heal」.

Following that I applied purification magic to clean up as well as 「Recover」. When the beastman woke up and extracted his dagger, I applied 「High Heal」 to my wound and the situation finally settled down.

"I've had it. Where are the obedient patients. I will only safely treat weak patients."

After I declared so, the people who heard that guided me to the place with obedient individuals and I treated them in order.

I was focused on doing my best so I didn't notice, but various thoughts spilled out from the adventurers who saw the scene unfolding in front of them.

"Did you see that? Even though that beastman pierced the Deviant Saint with a sword, he still angrily treated him."

"If that happened to a normal healer, he would have either died or fainted."

"Yeah. Usually a healer wouldn't even be able to use magic in that situation."

"Rather than that, normally wouldn't a healer just refuse to treat the patient after that?"

"Is it that, like a real zombie, he's resistant against attacks?"

"But, if he died then, wouldn't it have been seriously bad for us?"

"Yeah. Moreover among the adventurers in this Holy City, many of them have received help from Deviant Saint-sama. It also would have been bad for that beastman as well as for the other beastmen."

"That's right. I tend to forget because of his young age, but it seems like those who wear that armour are of high ranking in the church, and I also heard that he has a good relationship with the Valkyrie Paladin Corps."

"There might even be a riot and the human supremacist might start a commotion."

"Looks like it will be chaotic if we do not properly look after him."

"Well then everyone, please remain vigilant."

『Yeah!』

Without any knowledge of the conversation flowing in the background, since I was already here I decided to simultaneously treat all the inhabitants of the slums, including the beastmen as well.

Thus for the next 3 days I conducted treatment in the Adventurer's Guild and visited the slums to clean up as well as thoroughly treat all the injured individuals.

The slum residents were initially fearful of my appearance but when they knew that I offered to clean and treat them free of charge, some of them even worshiped me.

"This time I came here only for charity. Because I intend to treat people kindly, I came here to offer plenty of charity work. I hope that you all will also do charity like me in hopes that people will treat you kindly as well. I hope that someday the kind treatment you've offered will return back to you. As long as you all do so, I believe that this kindness will come back to aid you. I believe in all of you here."

Thus as I smiled, my 3 days of volunteer labour ended.

"... And so, erm~ I'm begging you, isn't it about time you all left? Any longer, I fear that I would face strange rumours circulating about."

Within the Adventurer's Guild Guildmaster's room, a group of beastmen were prostrated on the ground. This was really ... harsh on my mental health.

If this was how it's going to be, I felt that fighting with the undead would have been much easier.

I could only grumble to complain.

"To think that I stabbed a high ranking healer, even worst such an admirable person, even if I offered my life in exchange it would not be enough."

"Un. There is no need to say so. Well, I heard that you guys are a delegation from the Free City-State of Ienith. So, why were you on the verge of death?"

It is a rare form of a nation without any racial discrimination, operated by people representative in the form of a self-governing body. I heard that the representative's term of office was 2 years.

"Yes. On this occasion, Ienith intends to establish a Healer's Guild but it depends on their decision."

"I see."

"After contacting the Saint Schull Church, it was decided that we would meet with the Pope to discuss. But when we were approaching, we were attacked by bandits. The bandits were disciplined instead of disorderly so it was dangerous. Somehow it stank of a conspiracy."

"I am a healer so I can't help you with that. Even so you all done well to escape from that."

"Yeah. Our luck was seriously good and we somehow escaped

when magical beasts and adventurers showed up."

"I see. So were the talks successful?"

"Yeah. The truth is the talks were ongoing until just now but everything has been smoothened out without any problems."

"I see. If that's the case, please take care on the way back. For example they might ambush you all halfway through your journey, or they might pretend to ask for help and when you approach them they will scream out and concoct false accusations. That's right. It would be better if you stay at the Adventurer's Guild for a while and circulate the results of the talks to the adventurers. Also, if you have the gold, you can request for the guildmaster to dispatch adventurers to escort you all for the journey home.

" ... Is it necessary to prepare to such an extent?"

"Yeah. I had been in the care of beastmen before and there are some who are close with the beastmen, but it seems like there are also many human supremacists within this country. Especially within the Healer's Guild, there are many such purulent factions."

"Thank you for your advice."

"Don't mention it. Well then I will leave the rest to Guildmaster. I have other matters to attend to in the church."

"Yeah. You really saved us this time." (Guild Master)

"Same here. I've also received various reports regarding the undead. We are even. Also, I might not visit for a period of time after this so please take care. Well then everyone, if it is fated we will meet again somewhere."

Just as I wanted to exit the room Shiela-chan, who had her vocal cords cut and can't speak, tugged my robe and hugged me.

"Shiela-chan, you are the hero who saved everyone here. In the future too, work hard such that you do not lose to your destiny."

Without knowing if it would work, I chanted a certain magic before leaving the room.

I did not even know that this encounter here would cause a drastic change in my life later on.

"Eh? You plan to enter the labyrinth now?"

"Yeah. Somehow knowing that the labyrinth is still here is a constant thorn at my side so fortunately I have half a year's worth of food so I plan to stay in the labyrinth."

"Don't say such a foolish thing. There's no way I will allow something like that."

"I guess so. Even so, this time my actions would likely be noticed

by evil individuals and I am afraid of being assassinated or raided so I wish to become stronger at least up to the stage where I can escape."

"... I will bring this up with the Pope."

"Okay. Thank you. However, to gain resentment just by helping others, this is a scary world huh."

"That is really true."

"Well then please go ahead without acting reckless."

"Yeah. I'm off."

Thus I stepped foot into the labyrinth training ground.

Chapter 33: Specter Knight King, Mortal Combat With Shisho, Luciel Meets A Real Warrior

It will soon be 8 months since I began challenging the labyrinth.

My salary had increased across the board and for some reason the Pope had replaced Granhart-san as my boss. Even now I was in the progress of challenging the labyrinth.

"With this I feel impelled to work harder." I finished my training and drank Object X before conducting image training for the big day tomorrow.

According to the information passed down from the Pope by Katria-san, my opponents the next day were; the man who boasted an overwhelming amount of magical power, capable of pressuring opponents using a great sword while casting healing magic, the paladin captain; and the man with overwhelming spear handling skills, the priest knight captain.

I don't dread getting slashed repeatedly by a great sword. Neither do I fear getting stabbed by a spear because of my many battles with countless adventurers.

Although it would hurt, as long as I avoid getting hit in the vitals I believe that I can heal immediately.

"However the outlook seems quite harsh."

Among the priest knights and paladins that are divided into 4 groups each, only the Valkyrie Paladin Corps accepted my request to join their training, the remaining 7 Knight Corps treated me like a tumour. (TL: In other words there are 4 Paladin Corps and 4 Priest Knight Corps in total)

This was most likely due to my 3 day long volunteer service previously.

A complaint was lodged from the healer's clinic in the Holy City, but because I now directly reported to the Pope, they could not make me take responsibility. Later, they tried to make contact with me through Granhart-san and Jordo-san, but because they found that I was likely to be inside the labyrinth, they no longer attempted to do so.

Katria-san was in charge of collecting the meals from the obachans at the dining hall so they didn't become victims of this incident. But without any companions that would remark that bullying is bad, I was unlikely to be able to turn the situation around via charisma or frontal confrontation.

"In essence, the situation remains helpless. There were some who decided to ignore me but this is still an ill-natured world with assassinations and raids."

I sighed deeply without hiding any resentment.

Should I use purification magic or 「Area High Heal」to defeat the

2 of them? Is it wise to approach them for close combat in the first place? I was preoccupied with these insecurities floating in my mind as I trained.

I realised. In this illusionary labyrinth training ground where damage can be felt, if I died here wouldn't I experience pain similar to dying?

Not only would I turn pale looking at my dead body, I could also easily imagine the words from the Pope.

"Oh Luciel. To die here, so pathetic."

After I resurrected, she would say those words with a straight face or maybe even with a smile. No way will I accept that.

[I would be vilified] I bitterly thought. If that happened I would lose my place in the church, even more than what I had already lost now.

From Katria-san's report, it seemed like I am hated by 2 Paladin Corps and 1 Priest Knight Corps.

I seriously considered working hard to aim for 100 friends after I cleared the labyrinth. (TL: Lol first to get a girlfriend then now to get 100 friends. His bucket list for after clearing the labyrinth is increasing)

Without being able to shake off those worldly thoughts, the day

before the battle that decides my fate, I avoided a sleepless night thanks to the angel's pillow. After having a sound sleep I challenged the labyrinth.

"Body condition, good. Weapons, good. Armour, good. Magic bag, good. Applied magic, good. Mental image, good. Object X, good."

As usual I checked my condition before the battle and gulped down Object X. I fired myself up and opened the door to the 40th floor boss room.

"As expected, it's dark." After muttering so, my brain froze when I saw the monster.

A strapping Specter Knight King, equipped with a set of sturdy armour, holding an stance crossing a great sword and long spear both close to 3 meters long, standing more than 50 cm taller than me, appeared. I cried out.

"Isn't that my ideal style?"

Thus I had a chivalric duel(?) with the Spectre Knight King. (TL: Yes the question mark is in the raw. Maybe he is having a duel with the Specter Knight King to claim the right to dress in that manner?)

For long time after that, I continued battling with the Specter Knight King, but at that time I couldn't think about such things at

all.

Whenever the Specter Knight King swung his great sword, it was accompanied by roaring winds. If he stabbed with his spear, instead of a single stab, he could abnormally stab 3 to 5 times in a row. Undoubtedly, he was able to do so because he doesn't have joints or muscles.

It was such a manga-like setting. More importantly, this Specter Knight King was really strong. Even so, he seemed strangely human-like.

When I attacked with purification magic and healing magic, he didn't die and instead recovered by enveloping himself with a dark light. However, in cases when damage was done via physical attacks, he didn't recover. I also used healing magic on myself.

“Haahaahaa, but if this continues it will be disadvantageous to me. It's also tough without a pause button ... eh? Maybe this could work as a pause button?”

I lined up 3 barrels of Object X in a corner of the room. When I stood outside that, the Specter Knight King returned back to the center and stood still.

“What kind of third-rate comedy is this? To give him such configurations, the Pope is too evil.”

I put forth my best efforts to challenge the Specter Knight King.

I was unclear how much time had passed.

Half a year's worth of food, half a year's worth of Object X and the magic spell book I obtained in the labyrinth.

Without any of those I wouldn't have survived.

With my arms slashed, my legs pierced, I experienced excruciating pain and cried out about how much this is an impossible game, but I refused to give up.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish using my magical power as sustenance become the breath of an angel, restore him to the form he should originally have, I pray to the mysteries of life. Extra Heal.】

The spell restored my left arm that was severed together with the shield held in it, as well as my leg that was chopped up and blown away. I forced myself to sleep using the angel's pillow and desperately ate to restore lost blood that can't be recovered with magic.

Once, I couldn't resist the temptation to cast 「Extra Heal」 on the Specter Knight King.

The Specter Knight King at that time was seriously dangerous. It was a situation like when a boss in a game has 1 HP left and breaks its limit to become 3 times stronger.

Since then, I was forced to only rely on frontal attacks. But because I'm a healer ... such feeble attacks couldn't reach him. My shield was destroyed by him so I wasn't holding on to a shield as well.

Currently, assigning the Specter Knight King as my second mentor, I continued confronting him as a wall for myself to overcome.

I believed that as long as I could damage him, even if he is a monster with the undying attribute, I can return him back to his magical origins.

I recalled what I learned from Instructor Broad over and over again, recalled about myself who continued to work hard since coming to this world because I, being a mediocre individual, could only advance one step at a time that way.

Even though he was an undead, he had overflowing chivalry like a noble protagonist from a story. Although Specter Knight Kingsho couldn't speak, I wonder if he felt my growth?

I parried the great sword using my lance with magic channelled into it and kicked out with my left leg. While in a bent over posture, he sent the blunt end of his long spear towards my torso. But I had anticipated that it would come. I rotated my body and did a backhand slash with my magic sword towards his undefended back.

I had seen this scene countless times. I had experienced the pain of having my body carved up countless times as well. Again and again.

I naturally felt tears flowing down.

I have no idea if the cause for that was because Shisho was going to disappear from this world forever, or from the sense of achievement of defeating Shisho, or because I could feel that I had significantly grown.

Channelling the largest amount of magical power I could into my short spear, I pierced towards Shisho's neck.

The lance released a pale light and flew towards Shisho's neck. Shisho's head flew off and his body fell backwards.

Immediately after that, Shisho's body burst, leaving behind not only a large magic stone, spell book, great sword and long spear, there were also weapons that can be said to had been created just for me, a one-handed sword and short spear, as well as Shisho's equipped helmet, gauntlets, greaves and boots. Instead of black, the armour set emitted a pale glow.

I bowed me head to Specter Knight King-shisho and thanked him from the bottom of my heart.

“Shisho, thank you very much for your guidance for such a long time.”

Thus my long and arduous battle with Shisho ended, signaled by『Guooooo』, the sound of the door and stairs leading downwards appearing.

“Pipe down, let me indulge in my sentiments for a while.”

Although I had not felt proper closure, I had finally cleared the 40th floor boss room. But, for whatever reason, I could not open the door behind me.

“Seriously?”

Thus, I remained trapped and could only proceed forward into the labyrinth.

Chapter 34: There's No Time, If That's The Case I'll Just Do It, Labyrinth Capture Via Tricks. The Fang Of The Devil Labyrinth That Shook My Mental Spirit

The new monsters that appeared from the 41st floor were undead horses, undead wolves and undead cats.

For the sake of convenience I named them as such. The undead horses had sludgy melted physiques clad in a reddish purple aura while the undead wolves howled with muffled 『OuoooOOO』 in addition to their thick bone structure, so I refused to recognize them as dogs.

Lastly, reminiscent of saber-tooth tigers, with sharp fangs and sharp claws, displaying a triangular jump when it kicks the wall reminding me of a certain soccer manga's goalkeeper, with only bones for upper body and feline-like physique, I acknowledged it as a cat.

Apart from those, there were only larger Wraiths and Specter Knights with flashing red eyes.

I visually estimated that this floor was larger by more than 1 km in all 4 directions. In this floor which was slightly wider than those up until now, I encountered no problems as I fought with never seen before monsters and advanced via brisk walking as I stayed vigilant for traps.

I advanced and opened the treasure box without encountering any battles. Due to the fact that when I entered the 40th floor my food reserve was in critical condition, I decided to use underhanded tricks to advance.

That's right. I fastened barrels filled with Object X to the robe I received from Granhart-san and advanced.

The undead that are programmed to flock towards the living, were instead running away. The flight of the animal undead was even more pronounced. I merely continued walking.

Just by advancing using my intuition, Great Luck-sensei would guide me to the treasure boxes and subsequently the stairs leading forward.

Thus I was currently enjoying my last supper in front of the 50th floor boss room.

Due to the terrible smell being emitted from barrels filled with Object X, I blocked off the path to the boss room's door and prevented monsters from approaching. After taking my last night's worth of sleep using the angel's pillow, I finished the final serving of Object X and thus both my reserves of food and Object X had been exhausted.

"I've done my best. If I fail here, it just means that this is an impossible game so I'll give up gracefully. To defeat such a cheat-like Shisho, moreover to be trapped in as well, thinking of what the Pope who made this devil-like setting would say when I

resurrect makes me melancholic.”

While complaining, I touched the boss room with my hand.

Instead of the usual piercing rust screech, 『Gogogogooooon』 a fierce sound resounded, unlike any that I’ve heard before until now.

“Last boss? I’m fired up!”

With that, the light was turned on as usual. And then the 50th floor boss figure that appeared was a Wight.

However. “That’s way too big.” Not the usual Wight but King? Lord? It was about that size, with a physique that gave off an impression of massiveness similar to that of Orcs that frequently appears in Fantasy worlds.

Apart from that, what made me stare wide-eyed was, on the robe covering its body, on its fingers and ears, and practically everywhere, there were people’s faces protruding out.

“So disgusting.”

The 50th floor boss was a Wight that had absorbed other undead, an aggregation of the undead.

I believed that the first to act would win so I charged after

strengthening my body. As usual I chanted 「Area High Heal」 but ... I encountered a problem.

The boss's arm that swung out was slapped towards me.

Although I can move while chanting magic, I didn't anticipate that its attack range would be so wide and was sent flying.

“That gave me a shock. I was saved because I softened the impact by jumping to one side at once.”

However, the troublesome events continued. I have no idea if it was due to being hit, but from the arm that was hit by the boss itself, the faces couldn't withstand the attack and multiple faces splattered off.

“Your holiness, the impossible game is advancing even more.”

The splattered off faces produced flashing red eyed Specter Knights and Wraiths.

I chanted Purification and slain the stiffened Specter Knights. I was really thankful that the Darkness magic of Wraiths was ineffective.

However, my opponents were not only the enemies that were just born. As expected, the large Wight unleashed a large magic towards me.

I've seen that magic before. That's right it was the black light magic used on the 10th floor that with just a scratch causes a feeling of intense pain.

Oh shit. I casted the magic left behind by Shisho with 「Chant Termination」.

「Sanctuary Circle」 The next instant, light rose up from the magic circle with me in the center.

My MP was greatly consumed. On the verge of MP depletion, I recovered by drinking the high grade magic potion that I had and felt the greatness of the sanctuary circle.

That colossal black light magic was extinguished the moment it touched the sanctuary and any undead that touched it dissolved.

“Such a cheat magic.” But the price for that was the consumption of 100 magical power. In addition this time I casted with 「Chant Termination」 so it took 1.5 times the magical power. And this cheat magic only lasts one minute.

Little-by-little since I entered the labyrinth, I've been accumulating P and under Katria-san's recommendations, I purchased some potions.

To be honest I didn't need them. Not only had I not need it until now, even during my battle with Shisho I could cast healing magic

with breaks in between.

However, this time it was different. Without the advice from that time I would have died.

As I drank the MP potions, I slashed at the undead while casting purification magic on the boss Wight.

When the number of enemies increased, I spun a chant.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish use my magical power as sustenance, like wings of light, using a shield of purification, create a sanctuary that sears everything wicked and impure. Sanctuary Circle.】

Thus while guzzling MP potions, I used my sword and spear to defeat the monsters that came from the Wight.

Thanks to that, the large Wight gradually became smaller.

And then as a personal experiment, while spinning a chant I formed magical power outside my body.

That's right. It's the magic that I couldn't use when I just came to the church. Remote Magic Circle Chant. It was an experiment for the skill that would allow me to use magic remotely. I would be able to assign a location and create a magic circle there. The range is not only right beside me, but as long as it is within my sight.

I used 「Sanctuary Circle」 on the Wight Lord(?). (TL: Luciel is still trying to decide on what to name the boss.)

Written in the 「Sanctuary Circle」 spell book, it is a spell made by the gods with the hope to protect everything Holy. It extinguishes Darkness magic and burns demons and immortal monsters within and outside the barrier.

I secretly thought that it would be a better method if the magic prevents monsters from entering it but I was intrigued by the words that said that it burns those within and outside the barrier so I specified the ground below the Wight Lord(?) and casted.

At that moment, the Wight raised its death throes.

The Wight's body was being burnt by a pale flame. That instant, I was confused because I totally didn't know the meaning behind what happened next.

Maybe it was an illusion. The pale flame rapidly melted the faces covering the Wight, leaving only the Wight behind, no, it left behind a living person carrying a sacred aura like those in novels. The elderly priest smiled in my direction and whispered something.

The whispering lord disappeared. Then, I had goose bumps all over my body and I vomited violently.

That's such an awful setting. What if all the monsters that I've killed until now were elderly priests like that? As if questioning me like that, to force it on me at the final moment. What an evil, shitty setting.

While I doubted the mental health of the Pope that made this evil design, I looked at what remained as I waited for my mood and magic to recover.

“Now that I think about it, the Wraiths didn't drop any magic stones this time. Only this amazing magic stone, magic spell book and cane remains. Because it was holding a cane huh.”

To be safe I applied purification before storing the cane and magic stone into my magic bag. When I picked up the spell book I saw that taboo magic was written in it.

“ ... Perhaps this is ... ”

The contents were as expected. It's effects, chant and even why it is taboo was described in it.

I was troubled as to if I should report this to the Pope while I stored it into my magic bag.

“Eh? The usual stairs leading downwards didn't appear. Perhaps.”

Like a game maybe it is set to have a magic circle for returning

appear in the center? I looked around but there was nothing.

On the contrary, even the door to return had disappeared.

“I’ve been checkmated. Am I supposed to starve to discard my worldly desires?”

I was already at my mental limit. I sat down at that spot and fell backwards. And then I took out my angel’s pillow and sulked in bed.

I had not noticed but at that moment there was a mysterious aura being emitted. Somewhere, with a feeling of gentleness, there was a large door that soundlessly emerged from the surface.

I saw the door when I woke up. It reminded me of the times when I had done something mischievous when I was young and hid in the closet. My mother would say “It’s not good to do bad things.”, lightly scolding me when she comes to get me during meal times.

Chapter 35: Breaking Through The Labyrinth Of Tribulations

When I had finished sulking in bed, my stamina and magical power had completely recovered.

The angel's pillow was indeed a cheat item as well. I conveyed my thanks to all the cheat item-samas.

Getting up after I stretched, I noticed that something had changed.

There was a large door. Looking at it somehow soothed my heart. It was emitting such an aura.

“ ... I wonder why. Although it is merely a door, maybe it's due to the aura emitted by the door, but I feel something welling up in my chest.”

I stood up and touched the door.

And then the door began absorbing my magical power.

“Tsk, return my uplifted emotions.”

I couldn't remove my hand from the door. As the magical power flowed into the door, the door gradually became saturated and a pattern was drawn on it.

I don't know how much was absorbed but right before I was completely drained, the door emitted light and opened.

"I don't wish to plant a flag here but, I guess there's a last boss behind this."

Reluctantly, I drank magic potions to recover my MP before stepping past the door. I immediately saw that the lower floor was semi-underground.

I slowly descended. When I've reached around the midpoint, I had a bad premonition and crouched down. It wasn't because there was an attack or anything.

I couldn't advance anymore. Intuitively, within my brain, I felt that something was signaling me to stop. As proof of that, my goose bumps were standing up vigorously.

Looking at what was captured in my crouching field of view, "If this is the flag recovery that Katria-san told me about then what kind of devil is the Pope?"

An undead dragon was caught in my field of view.

There are European Dragons, Japanese Dragons and Oriental Dragons but this time it was an Oriental Dragon. (TL: ドラゴン、竜、龍. They all refer to dragons, 1st one is dragon written with katakana used for foreign languages, 2nd one is written with the

Japanese character for dragons and the last one is also a Japanese character for dragons but also a Traditional Chinese character for dragons)

In this world's classification of dragons, those with wings but can't fly well due to their heavy bodies are called Japanese Dragons (竜), while those with long bodies meant for flying are Oriental Dragons (龍).

Wyverns (ワイバーン) are classified as flying Japanese Dragons (飛竜) not capable of releasing dragon breath attacks. There are other types as well but it doesn't matter at the moment.

“ ... Are you serious. After all that's still a dragon species. Just like in a certain game's V series, the one protecting a spear within a treasure chest found between dimensions.”

Half of the undead dragon was black like it had been carbonized while the other half shone with Holy Silver giving off a mysterious atmosphere.

“Is it possible for a healer to win against that? Eh? But that undead dragon ... isn't moving.”

I instantly summarized the few points I took notice of.

- If I don't approach any closer, it would not attack.

- Dragons are intelligent species so there is a chance that it can

Speak.

- 「Sanctuary Circle」 may be able to undo the undead-fication.

I fired myself up and casted 「Remote Magic Chant」. To encompass the entire dragon's body with the magic circle and have an instantaneous effect, I drank a high grade magic potion and boosted my magical power to expand the magic circle.

I triggered 「Sanctuary Circle」 boosted with magical power.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish use my magical power as sustenance, like wings of light, using a shield of purification, create a sanctuary that sears everything wicked and impure. Sanctuary Circle.】

When Holy light appeared, the sleeping dragon stirred and violently struggled.

However, the dragon couldn't escape from 「Sanctuary Circle」. When the pale light released from the dragon's figure disappeared within the pillar of light extending up to the ceiling, 『Guooooooooo』 I heard its terrifying death throes followed by an earthshaking tremor 『Dosen』.

“Did I succeed?”

I, who easily overcame the flag, should walk towards the dragon.

My intuition told me so.

When the light subsided, the large maw of the dragon was approaching right in front of my eyes.

I would be eaten without any opportunity to avoid, ah, I'm a goner this time. I had thought so. But I didn't feel any pain.

Then, the dragon's undead black bones turned white and it looked at me before abruptly speaking.

"To defeat me with one hit, I'll give you a reward. This labyrinth is called the Labyrinth of Tribulation. Therefore, through a magic circle, I can give you a blessing. It's perfect for a cowardly person like you. You can only enter here once so it is fine if you take everything here as well."

Various items like gold and silver treasures, weapons, armour, magic tools and luxury articles were there.

"You ... you won't bite me right? It is still under discussion whether the dragon species belong to the god beast or monsters."

"Relax. This floor no longer has any evil miasma left. If you take the magic stone that is placed there, the labyrinth will disappear. What you do is totally up to you. It can be said to be a privilege reserved only for you."

“What’s the reason for this labyrinth? What was the Pope thinking?”

“Dragon species like me are reborn once a thousand years. Those like me didn’t get reborn because the evil gods that control the demons attacked us and sealed us in places with accumulated magic.”

“Shouldn’t the heroes resolve that?”

“Unfortunately no heroes came by here. And then we who had been sealed by the evil god, due to the curse, began turning into undead.”

“I have a bad feeling about where this is going. You do know that I am a healer? Not something like a paladin?”

“Until a hero is born, for the remaining 40 years of human lifespan, I hope that you can dispel the curse placed on us by the evil god.”

“ ... Why is it that this can’t be done by somebody other than me?”

“Judging by the encompassing demonic atmosphere, the demons that are close to the Darkness attribute are becoming stronger. It is uncertain if the hero would win against the Demon Lord.”

“Maybe. If that’s the case, as somebody weak, I’ll try my best to

survive. That's all I can promise. I am neither strong, nor a foolhardy person."

"Kukuku, to call yourself weak after defeating me, you've peaked my interest. I'll give you my blessing."

"That will be good. Eh does this mean that since coming to this world until now it has been a prologue? If that's the case then it's good that I passed it."

"I have no idea what you're saying. Young master who defeated me, what is your name."

"Luciel. But it's really fine, not only am I only a healer, I also don't want to die. I'll be glad as long as the people I know are safe."

"Relax, it will only make it harder for you to die."

"If that's the case then thank you."

"Kukuku. You are an interesting person after all. I hope that you would save my brethren."

"I can't promise you that. I have neither the sensitivity to do so, nor am I the protagonist of a story, let alone do I have the capability of handling that."

"I understand. Apparently, it's time. My corpse will not decay

immediately. I offer my blessing and corpse to Luciel.”

“I’m grateful for your offer.”

“The demon forces are gradually growing stronger. Try to save my brethren if it is within the scope of your capabilities.”

“Yeah I will. Because I don’t wish to die.”

“Kukuku. I have fulfilled my role ... F ... lu ... na ... Goodbye.”
(TL: The dragon said Fuiruna with an additional ‘i’ but I think he’s referring to Fluna = The Pope’s name.)

Thus the undead dragon’s seal was undone. So his cycle of reincarnation had restarted ... I guess?

I had a bad premonition that the labyrinth would collapse if I did so, so I left the magic stone and instead stored all the other treasures into my magic bag. I was surprised when I saw 2 magic bags among the treasures as I gathered all the magic tools. (TL: The magic stone he left behind was the ‘Heart’ of the labyrinth. The one that once taken would stop the labyrinth from expanding)

Next, I sorted the dragon’s corpse. The Holy Dragon’s (provisional) scales, Holy Dragon’s reverse scale (TL: A reverse scale is said to be a legendary scale on a dragon’s throat that symbolizes a dragon’s wrath), Holy Dragon’s fang, Holy Dragon’s bones, and the undead dragon’s bones were stored into my magic bag.

And then, when I had stored everything into my magic bag a treasure chest appeared. Stored inside it was a spear as well as accessories.

“For a mere healer to have such a surplus of items. Well, I’m glad for the single fact that I can finally return. But.”

I think it would be good to only speak of what happened here with the Pope. Even the Pope’s attendants are out of the question. My intuition was telling me so.

When I made up my mind and jumped into the magic circle, it began glowing.

『Ping』【Title “Blessing of the God of Healing” obtained】

『Ping』【Title “Divine Protection of the Holy Dragon” obtained】

『Ping』【Title “Dragon Slayer” obtained】

『Ping』【Title “One who unleashed the seal” obtained】

『Ping』【Due to the oath with the Holy Dragon, you will now know the location of sealed dragons】

When the light subsided, I was at the entrance to the labyrinth.

“I feel like I’ve been bewitched by a fox. Rather than that, I’ve been had by that Holy Dragon. ... I can’t even begin to feel angry with my empty stomach. Ha~ Let’s return.”

Thus I departed from the labyrinth.

Side Story 5: The Disappearance Of Deviant Saint, An Unprecedented Crisis For The Church Headquarters

There were various speculations floating about in the Holy City Schull's Adventurer's Guild.

The Deviant Saint healer Luciel, while he is an E rank adventurer, he is also the only healer not driven by monetary greed.

The last day he came to the Adventurer's Guild was the Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day.

He left the Adventurer's Guild after saying that he would not return for some time.

It would soon be 8 months since that day.

In the beginning it was thought that he went on an expedition to somewhere but we never tried to confirm those facts.

There was a reason why we thought that there was no way he went on an expedition.

That's right. It's because of Object X. Object X is extraordinarily bad.

For that reason every year, in the Adventurer's Guild Headquarters, the Adventurer's Guild that drinks the most Object X would be given a luxurious gift from the late sage and the late Adventurer's Guild Headquarter's guildmaster. (TL: So that's why Grulga-san and Broad-san force fed Luciel Object X hahah)

The rankings could be viewed in all the Adventurer's Guilds and there was an advanced technique in place to not count in any fraud such as discarding Object X.

Returning to the topic, there hasn't been anybody who continued drinking Object X in recent years. But in the town of Meratoni it was being rapidly consumed ...

That's right. It became something like an indicator of where Luciel was at. However, even though he drank it every time, he no longer came to drink Object X.

Normally this would not be a cause for concern.

However because the Deviant Saint stopped coming over, the healer's clinic became arrogant and continued to raise their prices.

There was a petition aimed at the Healer's Guild Church Headquarters but it didn't reach the Pope.

Was the Deviant Saint imprisoned in the church?

Was he being subjected to torture?

Was he only not given Object X?

Distrust in the church gradually increased, resulting in a push for a movement to save the Deviant Saint.

On the other hand, the church began feeling worried because Luciel, who had always returned every week, had not returned.

Even though Luciel had not returned, for about one month they remained optimistic.

They believed that their close acquaintance would return.

However, he did not return even after 3 months.

The Pope as well as Katria ... previously known as the captain of knights Catherine Freya (TL: The author misspelled the name :X it's different from SS4), wished to select a rescue squad, but to send in the church's knight squad just for one healer ... The notion was dismissed.

Instead, there was even a motion to clamp down on Luciel who was said to be overconfident and advanced excessively into the labyrinth.

Including the Pope, Katria and the Valkyrie Paladin Corp

defended Luciel's name which prevented Luciel from getting slapped with a penalty.

However the others who did not consider Luciel favorably had completely abandoned him, assuming that he explored the labyrinth to gain honor.

After half a year had passed, there was a request to verify Luciel's survival.

However, the church refused to release any formal response.

But, there was a squad that finally decided to make a move. The Valkyrie Paladin Corps.

They forcibly dragged along the predecessor Jordo and entered the labyrinth.

Many zombies and skeletons appeared in the 10th floor boss room but those were not a match for them.

In fact at that moment, Luciel had finally reached the end of his battle with the Specter Knight King. Neither Luciel nor Lumina and the girls knew that labyrinth's boss rooms were in fact linked.

As Luciel lamented about the fact that he could only proceed forward and left the boss room, the Valkyrie Paladin Corps had finally collected all the magic stones and once again advanced further inwards as well. (TL: Lol so the reason why Luciel couldn't

go back was because of them >.<)

However, the stench became stronger as they descended further down the floors and they encountered Wraiths that specializes in mental attacks when they reached the 30th floor. The number of injuries further increased so the Valkyrie Paladin Corps deemed that the search could no longer continue and returned.

When Lumina and the girls had returned and were giving their report, an urgent notice arrived.

Meratoni's adventurers led by the Adventurer's Guild guildmaster Whirlwind, Holy City's adventurers led by Holy City Schull Adventurer's Guild guildmaster Granz as well as people who felt indebted to the Deviant Saint had surrounded the Holy City Schull's Church Headquarters.

'Release the Deviant Saint healer Luciel.' 'Hammer the scrooges.' Carrying such slogans, people gathered one after another.

An unprecedented demonstration against the church was going to happen.

It was clear to the eyes that a riot would occur if the church responded wrongly.

Luciel had no idea that a riot was on the verge of breaking out, as the 108 Paladins and Priest Knights who lazed around in the church daily cowered in fear from the demonstration of 380 adventurers

who pour all their efforts into battling monsters as well as more than 500 residents.

Within all that, the clueless Luciel who had broken through the labyrinth had no idea that he would once again face death immediately after escaping from the labyrinth.

Chapter 36: Once Again, The Combination Of Masochistic Zombie And Devil Mentor

I've returned from the labyrinth!! I sealed my thoughts of shouting that out loud as I placed my hand on the door to the shop and opened it.

Immediately upon doing so, a silver wire flew towards my neck. I believe that I was able to react in time at that instant because my mind was still tense from staying in the labyrinth for so long.

『Gakiiin』 Katria-san stared at me with a surprised expression as the silver wire struck the shield I retrieved from my magic bag at that split second.

The next instant, I tumbled backwards down the stairs.

I had no idea how many synapses I lost from that but my head hurt so bad that I immediately applied 「Heal」.

"That hurts. More importantly, I almost died?"

The next moment Katria-san did a flying body attack ... or so I thought but instead she hugged me.

"Wha ... wha ... what's the matter Katria-san?"

I thought that I wouldn't stutter. I had always thought that the

stuttering done by novel protagonists invokes an impression of a lucky pervert character.

However, because I had almost died and was suddenly hugged by her, the confusion broke my limit so I panicked and stuttered.

"So you're alive after all."

"Yeah. The 40th floor boss was a warrior-like monster. Going by feeling, I think I spent multiple months to defeat it. I planned to return after that but this time I couldn't open the door leading back so I could only advance forward."

"Thank god you're safe ... wait now is not the time for this. Hurry, go to the Pope ... No, go outside the church and stop the adventurers."

" ... ???"

I was dragged along by Katria-san to the magic elevator, left the church residential space and got off at the information desk. I immediately discovered a nostalgic face.

"Eh? Instructor Broad, Grulga-san, and even Garba-san, what brings you all here? Eh, even guildmaster is here, did something happen? If there is anything I can do to help I'll cooperate?"

"""" ... """"

" ? "

" ... Luciel, do you no longer feel like living?"

"Ku, thank god."

"Hahaha, where have you been and what have you been doing?"

"Hey people from Meratoni! I'll let the people outside waiting for him know. Hey Deviant Saint, make sure to show your face later at the Adventurer's Guild."

"Eh? Ah, yes."

After my reply, guildmaster went outside.

"And so everybody what happened? Ah, did you all come to visit me? I'm happy to hear that."

" ... You ... ha~"

"Well Luciel as a person slightly ... no, considerably deviates from the norm."

"Fufufu, and so? Where have you been and what have you been doing?"

Just as I wanted to speak immense cheers were raised outside. Was there a festival today?

"Is there something like a festival going on today?"

The three of them and Katria-san, even the receptionist held their heads in exasperation ... Hmm. I'll answer the question for now.

"Erm, I've been undergoing virtual training against the undead in the location prepared by the church. But I became too complacent and due to some defects I was confined within, so I thought that I might as well use this opportunity to train and continued advancing forward. I only returned just now."

『Gan』 Instructor Broad suddenly appeared beside me and his fist fell on my head.

"Ouch, Instructor Broad, you appear the same as always? Even so I believe that I have grown."

I said as my eyes turned watery.

"Hmph. Even though you are my disciple, you are a disciple with no talent. You are a 100 years too early to be able to avoid my attacks. You even made me worry because you became complacent."

"No way~ Well anyway Grulga-san, I'm so hungry that I'm going to collapse anytime soon. Please make something for me."

"Kukuku, gahaha. Very well. I'll prepare something for you. Well then let's go to the Adventurer's Guild. Hey miss. We'll be borrowing this kid."

"... Yeah. I'll be troubled if he doesn't report but for now it would be better to let you do so."

"Yup yup. Thankfully you are somebody who can easily understand, miss."

"Ah Katria-san. Please inform the Pope that I had somehow escaped from the labyrinth and will report to her highness later, and that I have a matter that I wish to consult her."

"Understood."

"Okay~ Let's go."

"Instructor Broad? There's no need to pull my neck, Garba-san why are you holding on to my legs? Grulga-san as well there's no need to hold on to my waist, if we walk down the street like this another strange rumour will start ..."

"Don't worry, Deviant Saint Knight-sama. Fufufu."

"That's right. Deviant Saint Healer-sama. Kukuku."

"Hey stop struggling. There will definitely be a new nickname so don't worry."

"Nooooooooooooo"

Thus just like that, I was carried flat on my back along the streets of the Holy City like a human portable shrine all the way to the Adventurer's Guild.

Meanwhile on the other side, with the report from Katria, including the Pope, the forces who did not think well of Luciel showed expressions of relief.

Fundamentally, knights are strong but that does not mean that they have absolute power. Furthermore, the priests, high priests, bishops and archbishops are not people born from the battlefield.

Due to that, looking at the scene whereby the church was surrounded, those who thought of their own death was not restricted to only one or two of them.

From this incident, the individuals who experienced the real horror of Luciel began scheming to either further get closer to their own factions, to not act hostile towards him or to keep a distance no matter what.

While I had no idea what was happening behind the scenes, I was

also oblivious to the blessing from Great Luck-sensei who dispersed the hostile forces. I ate the food made by Grulga-san and guildmaster and was made to drink Object X.

And then, the people who could not afford to go to the healer's clinic overflowed into the Adventurer's Guild. The Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day was revived.

"I was caught off guard just now but I had worked hard to surpass Instructor Broad. I will not hold back."

"Che, you're becoming cheeky, who was the one who taught you how to use the sword and spear in the beginning."

"I will answer that in the mock battle."

"Hurry up and come attack me."

"Here I come."

I poured all I had into strengthening my body before approaching with a upward slash from below using the sword held in my right hand while I pierced the ground using the spear held in my left to pivot my kick.

The next instant, I was lying on the training ground. Huh? It was completely different from what I had in mind.

"Well although you've come to have a decent form, did you think that you have grown stronger?"

"I'm sorry."

"Stand up. I'll retrain your mistaken spirit."

"Yes sir!"

None of the adventurers who saw the sight of me confronting Instructor Broad again and again circulated it around ... or so I thought.

Word was that the urban legend of the masochistic zombie healer that suddenly appeared in the town of Meratoni was actually real.

The adventurers knew. Broad was the SS rank Whirlwind who had entered his name into the realm of legends.

Besides, to be able to advance forward over and over again without breaking, like a zombie programmed to gravitate towards the living, all the adventurers who saw that scene decided on a new nickname.

'The Living Zombie' I only knew of this slightly later.

"Until when do you plan to lay there. I'll cut your arm off."

"Hiiiiiii, prepare yourself, Guueeee."

"Hoh. To be able to afford the energy to act out such a performance, looks like you have become slightly tougher. If so, then I won't hold back anymore."

"Gyaaaaaaaaa"

Thus, relishing the scene just like in Meratoni's Adventurer's Guild, everyone felt relieved from the bottom of their hearts that the Deviant Saint had returned.

Chapter 37: Tell Me That It's A Lie. Luciel, Finds Out The Truth To His Hallucinations

Yesterday, after they had contributed to the bustling activity in the Adventurer's guild, the adventurers, formed just like an army, began their journey back to Meratoni from the Holy City.

Looking at that spectacle, I was caught between feeling thankful and feeling apologetic as I received warm parting words from the adventurers.

"If anything happens again, I'll come running."

"Luciel, I'm glad that you are alive."

"There will be a masochist convention next time so come join us if you want to."

"You are the only one who can eliminate Broad-san's stress."

"I've cheated on my wife but I will try to not give up and apologize just like you."

"Only true adventurers return their favours."

"I'll have you treat me if I get injured again."

"Don't think that you are the only one that is growing. When you come to Meratoni, have a few mock battles with us as well."

Some of the statements in the middle ... no I won't comment on them. I went to say my farewells to Instructor Broad, Grulga-san and Garba-san before they departed towards Meratoni but as expected, they advanced the conversation with a sentence at a time each without waiting for any reply from me.

"Hey listen up Luciel. No, foolish disciple. You have this many people who care about you. I've said it yesterday but you are weak. Be aware of that."

"I understand."

"Hey hey Broad, leave it at that. If not, he won't return to Meratoni."

"... Nuu."

"No, he'll return ... He'll return so stop glaring at me."

"Luciel, the next time you come to Meratoni I'll train you as well. My style of combat fits the cowardly you more anyway."

"Hey Garba, are you intending to steal my disciple?"

"Hahaha. Well the person who decides that is Luciel."

"Anyway when you come to Meratoni, bring along at least one girlfriend."

"Eh ... girlfriend?"

"Luciel. When you have a boy, I can then train him."

"Yes yes. Luciel-kun is already of that age so think about it."

"If you have a daughter instead then I can teach her my cooking."

"Hey there, Grulga don't you cut in as well and Broad don't ride along with him. Well if you find yourself unable to stay in the Church Headquarters anymore come to the Adventurer's Guild in Meratoni. For you, that is the best safe zone."

"Thank you. If I reach a position that allows me to wander about, I'll come to Meratoni at least once. Also ..."

To these 3 people, it would be better to tell them clearly.

"It's not like the simple Luciel to look so serious."

"What is it? Is there something?"

"What's wrong, disciple?"

I believed that they were my allies so I could tell them.

"From now on the demons will increase in activity. The hero will not be born for dozens of years but before that there is a high chance that the demon race's strength will increase due to the influence from the evil god. All three of you, please be careful."

"Hoh. Did the church receive information regarding that as well?"

"As expected of the church to have sharp ears on par with us."

"You are a 100 years too young to be worried about us. Instead of us, now you should worry about yourself. The next time if anything happens, keep in contact with us properly. If we have many injured personnel, we'll send in a request to the church to let us have you so don't worry."

"I'd worry even more if that happens."

Just like that I easily believed them. I felt that I would never be able to win against the 3 of them who worry for me in a lifetime. I sent them off before returning to the church.

Returning to the church, just as I wanted to step into the magic-driven elevator, the receptionist called out to me.

"Luciel-sama, please wait a moment."

Oh? It's quite rare that the receptionist calls out to me.

"Yes, can I help?"

"I received a message to ask you to find Catherine-sama when you return."

"But I don't know anybody called Catherine-san?"

Eh? Why? What's with that 'Oh shit' expression?

"Excuse me. It is Katria-sama from yesterday."

"Ah. Katria-san ... I'm sorry. I have no idea where she usually is and neither do I know where her room is at?"

"Ah if that's the case then please wait a moment. I'll contact her for you immediately."

And then, just like when I initially came to the church, she closed her eyes while holding a crystal ball-like item.

But pulling an all-nighter was really bad. Even though my body was still young, I still felt sleepy. As I yawned greatly while waiting, somebody appeared gallantly.

"Luciel-kun, so you were alive."

My sleepiness was blown away at once. Because the person who came to get me was Lumina-san. Why is it that she only sees me when I'm doing something weird?

"I would like to talk but we'll have to go immediately."

As Lumina-san and I walked towards the Pope's room, she praised me for staying alive.

『Kon kon kon』

"Valkyrie Paladin Corps captain Lumina here. I have brought the exorcist Luciel."

"Enter."

I entered through the middle of the opened door and hung my head while bending on one knee.

"Exorcist Luciel, welcome back."

"Yes! I apologize for making you worry."

"No worries. Originally we would have rescued you but there

were many who were against it and moreover Wraiths appeared in the 30th floor onward so we had to give up on the rescue."

"It is okay, I think that that is natural."

"It helps me if you say it that way. However, why did you not return for over half a year?"

(Eh? Did she not know that a bug happened? So that's why. If she was monitoring me then she would have came to rescue me.)

"Yes. The truth is the boss that appeared on the 40th floor was a Specter Knight that was larger than usual. It could also ridiculously completely recover every time from any purification magic or healing magic I cast on it ... There was only 1 method, it did not recover any wounds it received from physical attacks. Which was why I battled countless times while treating my wounds with healing magic. I have no idea if it was due to my good luck but when I tried to use Object X as a barricade, it succeeded in making it stay away from me. From then on, I battled again and again, healing my legs that were blown off or arms that had been slashed, taking my meals and getting some sleep, as I drew out countless strategies and tried them out repeatedly via trial and error. I desperately ate to regenerate my lost blood that can't be recovered using healing magic while I looked for its weakness, but I am not a genuine warrior so I could only naively charge forwards. I have no idea how long I fought for but I somehow defeated it."

Oops, I was getting a little too passionate. When I noticed everyone looking at me I suddenly felt embarrassed.

" ... That is tremendous. And so why couldn't you return after such a long period?"

"Ah~ I wanted to return after defeating it but when I tried to go back the way I came from, I couldn't open the door so I could only proceed onwards to the 50th floor. After defeating the 50th floor boss, I could finally return. For the specific details, I apologize but I cannot tell it to anybody other than Your Holiness, Katria-sama and Lumina-sama."

" ... Umu. There's no helping it if there's something sensitive. Everybody else leave."

I thought that there would be somewhat of a dispute regarding this, but the attendants, and others who look like archbishops?, bishops? obediently left the Pope's room.

Including me, only 4 people remained in the Pope's room.

"And so? Do you have a decent reason for clearing out the room?"

Even though her figure was hidden, I somehow felt a vigilant atmosphere from the Pope.

"Yes. The 50th floor boss ... I was surprised by it in the main room. An enormous Wight attacked me and the blood that flowed from it gave rise to monsters."

"Was it possibly a Specter Magician?"

"Yes. It was somewhat like that configuration? I somehow defeated it using 「Sanctuary Circle」, but at the very end, I had not expected it to cast an illusion of the Wight becoming an elderly man which attacked my mental spirit."

"... Elderly man."

Eh? Was it not an elderly man? Katria-san and Lumina-san were stunned and staring at my direction. Ah, was I too frank with my words?

"Putting aside the hallucinations, it is fairly difficult for a new healer to clear that labyrinth. I was fearful that any moment I would hear the words of resurrection after getting game over."

However, it should be alright for me to claim that I had cleared the illusionary labyrinth now right? Even though it is true that it had amazing quality, I had really worked hard for it?

"Game over? What do you mean by resurrection?"

Eh? Ah. There isn't any games in this world. Instead of resurrection, I have no idea what word they use for it.

"Your holiness, I've cleared the labyrinth so there's no longer any need to continue acting? There's also something else I'd like to say. That Holy Dragon that appeared in the end, I was really surprised."

"Elderly man, Holy Dragon, maybe ..."

"It was regarding the reincarnation dragons that were sealed by the evil god. A setting that would have me release the sealed dragons within the next 40 years."

" ... Katria, Lumina. I forbid you from revealing anything that Luciel had just said."

""Yes!""

" ... And so, what did the dragon say?"

"Erm, if the sealed dragons are not released, the demonic element would become closer to the Darkness and gradually become stronger. The hero that would be born might lose to the demons. I would say that it's a great setting."

" ... What are you talking about. This ... wait, did it say anything else?"

"It asked me, a healer, to do whatever I can within my capabilities. Also, I did not retrieve the final magic stone within the labyrinth because I felt that it was a trap."

" ... Luciel. Since just now there has been a few things that bothered me, could I ask about those?"

"Yeah. Of course."

Is it if I enjoyed the labyrinth? Or my approach to face the bad smell? The monster arrangement for the next labyrinth?

"Firstly, what do you mean by illusion?"

"Eh? Starting with that? Well that is important coming from the maker's point of view. The quality of monsters beginning from the 1st floor was high. However, it is a shame that there wasn't any discomfort when receiving attacks nor was there any feedback when attacking with a sword or spear."

"... Lumina, what were your thoughts when you dived?"

"There was feedback when slashing but when magical power was channelled, I felt that they immediately returned to the demonic element of the labyrinth."

"Apart from that the quality was high. There was a sense of pain, especially the 40th floor knight setting, did Your Holiness set them yourself? Ah, the weapons used by that knight, the greatsword and long spear, can I take them out?"

"Yes."

"This is the problem. Although the illusions was impressive to

allow this greatsword to cleave through the shield and the arm holding on to it, and this spear to blow away the leg into fragments, usually the shock would be too great causing the person to faint or die. It is devilish to set such a strong monster ... you have no idea how many times I thought of that."

"These very two are ... and within that report I want to doubt my ears but how many pairs of arms and legs do you have? And the magic you used in the 50th floor ... did you say 「Sanctuary Circle」?"

"Yes. I luckily obtained the magic spell book for 「Extra Heal」 on the 39th floor, following that the previously mentioned 40th floor boss dropped the 「Sanctuary Circle」 spell book, and remarkably, I had no chance to use it yet, but the 50th floor boss dropped the taboo magic 「Revival」 when I defeated it. There is a chance that I would not use this in a lifetime so it would gather dust within my magic bag ... time is frozen in it so I guess that would not happen, but I guess I would not take it out into this world."

" ... Katria, Lumina, I forbid you from revealing anything you've heard today."

""Yes!""

"So, Luciel, I would have you take out everything you collected in the boss rooms. Of course including those obtained from the dragon as well. It is necessary to inspect them. Of course all the items belong to you, but there might be some items that I would like you to hand over to me."

"Well I guessed it would come to this. Since they were items that were planted by Your Holiness for the labyrinth capture."

"You've been talking about illusions since just now but I did not place these items and the undead are real monsters."

"No way, if they were real monsters then wouldn't my level rise? I had not risen by even one level. Without that I would have believed it."

" ... How?! ... Show us your status."

"Eh? There are no changes anyway. Status open."

Name: Luciel

LV: 1

Job: Healer IX (4↑), Holy Dragon Knight I

HP: 840 (420↑)

MP: 550 (390↑)

Age: 18

ST: 580 (400↑)

STR: 142 (69↑)

INT: 158 (50↑)

VIT: 163 (52↑)

MGI: 182 (75↑)

DEX: 137 (61↑)

RMG: 174 (74↑)

AGI: 129 (56↑)

SP: 0

Magic Aptitude: Holy

【Skills】

「Appraisal—」 「Parallel Thinking IV」(2↑) 「Great luck—」 「Chant Shortening V」(1↑) 「Taijutsu VI」(1↑) 「Chant Termination III」(2↑) 「Magic Power Control IX 」(2↑) 「No Chant I」 「Magic Power Manipulation IX」(2↑) 「Magic Circle III」 「Holy Magic IX」(2↑)

「Sword Mastery IV」(2↑) 「Meditation VII」(2↑) 「Shield Mastery III」(2↑) 「Concentration VIII」(1↑) 「Spear Mastery IV」(2↑) 「HP Recovery VII」(3↑) 「Archery I」 「MP Recovery VIII」(2↑) 「Presence Perception V」

「Stamina Recovery VII」(2↑) 「Twin Spear Sword Technique III」 「Throwing V」(1↑) 「Trap Sensing II」 「Dismantling II」 「Trap Detection I」 「Danger Perception VI」(2↑) 「Cartography III」 「Footwork VI」(2↑) 「Magical Power Amplification III」 「Body Strengthening II」 「Thought Acceleration II」

「HP Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「MP Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「ST Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「STR Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「VIT Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「DEX Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「AGI Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「INT Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「MGI Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「RMG Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(2↑) 「Physical Ability Increased Rate of Growth I」

「Poison Resistance VIII」(2↑) 「Weakness Resistance VIII」(2↑)

「Paralysis Resistance VIII」(2↑) 「Seal Resistance VIII」(2↑)
「Petrification Resistance VIII」(2↑) 「Disease Resistance VIII」(2↑)
「Sleep Resistance VIII」(2↑) 「Blunt Damage Resistance VI」(2↑)
「Charm Resistance V」(3↑) 「Daze Resistance VI」(3↑) 「Curse Resistance VIII」(2↑) 「Mental Resistance VIII」(7↑) 「Slash Resistance V」 「Pierce Resistance IV」

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」 (All status +10)

「God of Destiny's blessing」 (Increased SP acquisition)

「Blessing of the God of Healing」 (Potency of Holy attribute healing magic increased by 1.5 times)

「Divine Protection of the Holy Dragon」 (Become a Holy Dragon Knight, increase in combat skills and status. It is now possible to converse with the dragon race)

「Dragon Slayer」 (Become stronger in attack and defence against dragons)

「One who unleashed the seal」 (Immune to the curse of the evil god. Capable of obtaining the power of sealed dragons)

"See, I'm still level 1."

"But your job increased, and do you think that is the status of a level 1?"

"It is true that my status have increased across the board, but if you insist on that, then why does my level not increase?"

I refuted it. It is true that my status have increased but I would

still be instantly killed by Broad-san so I am not that strong.

" ... Katria, show this to Luciel."

Katria-san retrieved an old book from the Pope and she passed it to me.

"This is?"

"The original literature for God's Grief a.k.a. Object X. Read it."

Various discussions were recorded within the document. Among those, there were several possibilities written.

Written among the discussions regarding body level, it had been confirmed as a demerit that when drinking it the individual would find it very difficult to level up.

Moreover, because there wasn't anybody who continued drinking it, he hoped that someday somebody who could do so would appear so that he could conduct a detailed study.

That was written in the conclusion at the very end of the literature.

" ... Erm, eh? I can't find the proper words. Hahaha. Eh, but?"

"Luciel-kun, calm down."

"Luciel-kun, it's okay, you are still alive and present here."

"Surely you didn't think that it was really all an illusion."

I was supported at both sides by Katria-san and Lumina-san until I calmed down. I remained in that posture all the way until I settled my confused state of mind.

At that time I really didn't have any spare room to consider the fragrant scent from the two ladies nor the way they attended me from both sides. Even the posture that I was in, I didn't feel anything at all.

When I retrieved the items from my magic bag after I had calmed down, the Pope only collected the 40th floor boss's greatsword and long spear, as well as the 50th floor boss's cane.

The magic spell books became my belongings and I complied when she requested permission to copy them, except for 「Revival」, at a later date.

The 40th floor boss's equipment and the equipment left behind by the Holy Dragon were returned to me and they became my dedicated equipment, as nobody else could handle them.

In addition the magic bags, I did not need them because I would not have a chance to use them, but apparently the labyrinth magic

bags could be bought with white gold coins.

"Regarding the Holy Dragon bones obtained after applying purification on the undead dragon, is it possible for you to hand some of them over to me?"

"Yeah. If I'm the only person who can use the Holy bones from the Holy Dragon, then others can use the parts that turned into undead? However Your Holiness, please only use them for the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and former knight captain Catherine."

"Understood. The celebrations for clearing the labyrinth would be held a week from now, you will be required to attend as the guest of honour."

"Understood."

"Katria and Lumina remain behind, we will carry out a discussion regarding future measures."

""Yes!""

"Luciel you have achieved a great cause. I am glad that you returned safely."

"Yes! Thank you."

Even though I had lack of sleep and was in a state of turmoil, I

thought about how dangerous were the things that I had done as I returned to my room.

Normally I wouldn't be able to sleep at this timing, but thanks to the Angel's Pillow cheat item, I was able to get a deep and peaceful sleep.

Chapter 38: S-class Healer-Cum-Exorcist, Luciel's Declaration

Do you know the feeling? Of getting commended?

Do you know the feeling? To be placed among people who practically do not know you and are hostile towards you?

Do you know the feeling? The pressure from those older than you that feels like blood thirst when you became successful when you are young?

In my previous life I also gave a speech when I got promoted.

It begins with a set of phrases to thank your superiors, followed by words of gratitude to those around you who supported you. And then you can either narrate the road to your success in an interesting way, or you can describe the hard work you had put in. Following that you declare your next goal, before ending off by thanking everyone once again.

Well in my case my superior is Granhart-dono, who interrogated me and gave me my magic-driven elevator card and robe distributed to all guild headquarter's staffs.

Also, Jordo-dono showed me how to defeat monsters using purification magic in actual combat, and I found out that he had not entered the 10th floor boss room before so he did not have any obligation to give advice to me.

The Valkyrie Paladin Corps led by Lumina-san let me join their training but that is pretty much all I can say about them. She was a strict ally but I would like to thank Katria-san for her advice and also Obachan for the bentos.

After that would be the cheat items, magic bag and Angel's Pillow, from the Pope. Without them I would not be in this position.

I would also add on a word of gratitude for the omnipresent guidance from Object X-sama and Great Luck-sensei.

I came to this world because I wanted to be successful. That part is fine.

But, even though I put in effort so that I wouldn't die, I have no idea why my battles became more and more intense.

I calculated that if I stood with strong individuals, I would not die.

I calculated that if I had more close friends, I would be able to walk a path distanced from death.

Even though, I had calculated that if I stayed in contact with Instructor Broad whom I respect and Grulga-san and others such a life would naturally happen and that such a life would not be so bad ...

Maybe the God of Destiny was angered that I had grasped a calculated secure lifestyle, and chose to place me in a place with no allies this time around.

This time I no longer tried to be calculative ... That's my plan.

People who cherish me appeared as I progressed into the labyrinth and gave treatment in the Adventurer's Guild.

Just like in my previous life, I performed virtuous deeds not solely for the sake of others.

That's why I used charity work as a front to save those without money. I believe that my kindness would be returned someday.

I poured my heart and soul into my work. In the beginning I didn't do so ... but that is how it normally should be.

And yet, God, why is this place with so many enemies in front of me, my workplace?

"The activity of the long-existing labyrinth has been stopped. That is because the exorcist healer Luciel here broke through to the deepest part of the labyrinth. In the mean time, the accumulated demonic essence within the labyrinth would still cause monsters to appear, but one day monsters would stop spawning. From today onwards, the Knight Corps would oversee the periodic subjugation of the labyrinth. I hope that each of you

will work hard daily to brainstorm methods to do so. Well then, for the reward for this achievement, I appoint Luciel as a S-rank healer, with the position to give guidance within and outside the church headquarters, and have the same rank as a bishop. Also, in addition to the right to refuse any command from anybody other than me, I reward him with the opportunity to use my name, Fluna Aryudeli de Schull, for a declaration. So S-rank healer Luciel, a word please."

Your Holiness, why are you giving me a gaze that looks like you are expecting something? Ha~ ... my stomach hurts. I want to stay in the sky in an airship forever to prevent from getting assassinated. Although there isn't airships in this world ...

Do you know the feeling? My feeling of having no choice but to say something now. No idea? Guess so.

... Great Luck-sensei, I wish for a safe life.

"As introduced, entrusted with the great task of S-rank healer, I am the S-rank healer-cum-exorcist Luciel. I am still a fledgling so I am not an interesting existence to everyone. That is natural because my only achievement is to have captured the labyrinth. But, this uninteresting fledgling wants to say something uninteresting here. I have only become a healer for 3 and a half years but the authority of the church is already on the brink of collapse."

The audience became noisy and the thirst for blood was amazing. The Pope, Katria-san and the Valkyrie Paladin Corps answered with a smile. Was this what you all were plotting for? Well then

where shall I step in to continue.

"The reason why we are at the brink of collapse, is firstly because of the treatment policy set by arrogant healers. I heard that when the Healer's Guild was first established, treatment could be paid for using food and other items instead of only using money. That's right. It was a wonderful guild founded by a saintly gentleman. However, those with the profession of healers would never be able to live in abundance like that. With patients who complain about the treatment after it is done, nobody would consent to becoming a healer. Just as I have described, I do not have any problems with regards to healers charging money for treatment. There are many who have high aspirations and earnestly provide healing among all of you present here and among those who are active around the world. But then why are healers believed to be greedy? Because there has not been any progress in the establishment of a law. Hence, I hereby declare the creation of a guideline for treatment charges, in hopes that it would deal a crippling blow to the impression that the healer's clinics are only in it to make money. I have gained the consent of the Pope and all 10 archbishops. Subsequently, with regards to the paladins and priest knights, there will be an investigation done if any cases of corruption is found to have happened. In addition to dismissal from employment, this act is a breach of trust towards the job bestowed by the Chief God Kureiya-sama, so the person involved will be demoted into a knight. Hereafter, I hope everyone will brainstorm methods to resurrect the church's prestige, so that the church can one day stand on its own authority. I will also do so for the sake of the church. I hereby pledge my commitment to this lifetime goal. Thank you very much for your kind attention."

"Thank you for the speech. Originally the celebration for the S-rank healer Luciel would end here, but today I would also like to

announce a new personnel. I will now dissolve Katria from her current appointment and declare that she will be reinstated as the Knight Corps captain Catherine Freya. The reason why I reinstate Catherine is unrelated to everyone here, but just in case there are some of you who do not know the reason why, we have already scrutinized all the injustice and corruption that had been rampant within the church, and have punished all those who were involved. From today onward we will expand the scope of investigation so I hope that you all will work together with us to make the church prosper once again. I beg of you."

Although the Pope is never supposed to lower her head to others, everyone present in the ceremony saluted all at once.

Thus my promotion? rise in rank? to S-rank was decided. I prayed to the Chief God Kureiya, the God of Destiny, the God of Healing and my ancestors that this place full of my enemies improves for the better.

Book 4: When The S-class Healer Sets Off On A Journey, The World Finds Out About Luciel

Chapter 39: Words From The Legendary Healer's Guild Founder? Luciel, Tripped By His Own Ignorance

10 years had gone by since that S-rank healer celebration ... not. Just kidding.

"Luciel-kun? What have you been mumbling to yourself since just now?"

"Ah, sorry Catherine-sama. It's because some narration suddenly floating into my head."

"Narration? Do you aspire to be a bard as well?"

"No, no such thing."

I denied it outright. I already have my hands full with all the weird nicknames.

"Well I'm sure you are tired. At any rate, you've finished this guideline just after a month from that ceremony."

The person who just said that was Archbishop Mardan-sama. A mild and pious old man.

"That is true. But the contents are still a little rough."

The next person who talked was Munera-san, who has the face of an unscrupulous merchant, but he is in fact the right hand man of the Pope and holds the role similar to a diplomat.

"Yeah. If we release it out to the public like this the healers might go on strike."

Stated the person with a name that sounded like it was lie but was truly his name, Dongahaha. Although he was reluctant to create this guideline and was a Don for a certain faction, he was cornered to the brink of downfall after the ceremony. (TL: Don as in leader/boss). After that, he had a change of heart? and started going into the line of drafting legislations.

"But, we can't disobey the decree from the Pope?"

The person who placed himself in the role of the coordinator was the former Priest Knight captain Mr. Bulltooth. After he was injured he channelled his efforts into healing for the sake of the church, and at the age of 41, was the youngest ever to be appointed as an archbishop. Really shows how you cannot judge a person by their name.

"Yeah. Like he said, there would be a possibility of a strike. The healers who have had freedom until now would without a doubt resist the change, and Luciel-dono who led the initiative would definitely become a target for assassinations."

Unlike of his previous stance of not wanting the reform to

happen, Dongahaha-san's speed of changing his mind makes me wonder if he was now a part of the prudent faction.

"Even though that's the situation, if we do not rebuild the Healer's Guild run by the Church Headquarters of the Saint Schull Allied Nations, there will be a riot comparable to the one that happened when Luciel-kun went missing."

Ever since Catherine-san returned to her previous post, she had become a little frightening as she gives off an atmosphere similar to Broad-san. And in addition to that ...

"... Hmm? Luciel-kun, do you have an opinion to share?"

She had become an esper, sensitive at perceiving people's thoughts.

"Do you all know who this guideline was made for?"

"Isn't it for the patients?"

Everyone agreed.

"That's right. But it is also for the sake of the healers. When I first became a healer in the town of Meratoni, there were excellent healers that could use 「High Heal」. I have no idea what drove them to reach the point of being capable of using that ... but it could have only been achieved with considerable hard work and experience. Isn't it sad for such a hard worker to be hated by the

world? Healers are only human, so it is not strange that they are dazzled by money and greed, but it also tarnishes the healer's past heritage if they only think of snatching wealth from anybody they find. If healers in the healer's clinics charge at a lower price, although the earnings from a single patient decreases and it would become busier, the healer's skill would increase and healers would grow to become an honoured existence. People would want to become healers and it might even become the number 1 profession in the future. Don't you all want to make such a future come true? I apologize for the lengthy explanation. Just like what Dongahaha-sama said, we will proceed forward by changing the mindset of healers and as Catherine-sama mentioned, we will decide on the line at which we are willing to compromise. As a S-rank healer, I will also do my best."

"If you had thought about it until such lengths, I'll agree with you. I will work hard so that I won't lose to Luciel-kun."

"Umu. If so, then shall we further refine this guideline?"

"Eh? Why did it suddenly come to that?"

"The role of a S-rank, is to save the masses. You certainly possess the resolution and achievements to become a S-rank healer at such a young age, for you to quote those legendary words."

Legend? Quote? I have no idea what he's talking about?

"Erm?"

"You used the exact same words that was said by the founder of the Healer's Guild, Rainstar Gustard." (TL: The other story written by the author is about this character)

"Let us first begin by passing this legislation through. It is only by joining our hands together would we be able to move the world ..."

"Such an exaggeration ... or maybe not. Who knows, maybe one day poets would pass on this conference as folklore."

Eh? Everybody was speaking so enthusiastically. But rather than that, I was more interested in the "As a S-rank healer ..." part of conversation.

"Heys, and so my job is to?"

"Hmm. As expected we can't let you travel alone, we can either create a Luciel-dono squad with a company of knights, or if secrecy is needed we can hire mercenaries or adventurers."

"There aren't any in the Holy City but we can also use slaves."

"With the S-rank healer's card you can even enter the Elimasia Empire."

"It has been decided that you would need to report in periodically to inspect your work and make sure you are not doing anything unjust. I hope to start on improving the magic communication bead so I have to contact the Independent Magic City Nelldal."

... Erm? ... Why did it become like this?

"We'll have to prepare a world map for you too."

"Before that, Luciel-kun, horsemanship is indispensable if you are to set out on a journey. Because you would be targeted by the likes of thieves if you travel using carriages."

"If I was just a little younger, I would have tagged along. Such a pity."

"Most small villages have no healers so they rely on the church for healing. Of course, your salary would be higher than before so work hard."

"Guys, let us work hard too so that Luciel-dono becomes capable of setting out on journeys."

"Yes! (Ouu) (Yeah) (Umu)"

Thus the specialists in this line of work gave their all to advance the guideline and legislation that had been put together.

Let me say it out loud once again. Why has it come to this?

I could not say the words to deny it quick enough, and could only remain dazed and watched over the heated conference.

Various points were incorporated into the guideline but I will list them out in simple terms below.

- To give an explanation prior to treatment.
- To present them with the fee after the explanation but prior to the treatment.
- To display the pricing plan for healing magic that would be priced according to the healer's skill level.
- Discounts would be left up to the healer's clinics but it must be within the allocated price range.
- To ask for the consent of the person who brought the patient in to pay during emergency situations.

Within the legislation, there were contents that allowed for the creation of insurance using adventurer or citizen cards, but this world does not have the concept of insurance so I have no idea if it would be established.

After having created the framework for the guideline and legislation, I considered the schedule to implement it as well as the method to notify all the Healer's Guild branches, as I listened to the status report of each of the current healer's clinics.

Even though I was in the core of the Healer's Guild, in the Church Headquarters, I was clueless about the church as well as the Healer's Guild.

Thus I was made to learn about the church. People who saw this misunderstood, and thought that I was a pious person at such a young age. Although I could roam freely with my position of S-rank healer, the Pope had conveyed a message saying that it has been decided that I would be sent on a journey when I reached 20 years old.

It was left up to me to decide on how to spend my remaining 1 year and 5 months.

It was only but a little longer before the day the world finds out about Luciel.

Chapter 40: Letter From Shisho And Work To Be Done From Now On

Yesterday, I was told by the Pope to set out on a journey as a S-rank healer.

"Luciel, as a S-rank healer you need to save the people. I had no idea that you have given so much thought into working hard for the sake of the church, for you to use the words said by the legendary Healer's Guild founder, adventurer and spirit user Rainstar Gustard."

Yeah. I totally didn't have that in mind when I said that.

" ... Yes."

"From today onward, Mardan and Munera will be in charge of the guideline and legislation, Dongahaha will adjust the schedule and Catherine will review the contents."

""""Yes!""""

"Followed by Luciel. I am delighted by your enthusiasm, but I heard from reports that you are still not completely capable of riding a horse?"

That is the case. That's why I desire a safe place to live in.

" ... Yes."

"If that's the case, no matter how much effort you put in for the church, when you go on a journey you would be attacked by thieves and monsters."

That's right. Because I am weak.

"Yes. I feel uneasy fighting with thieves and monsters, and because I can't ride a horse I believe that I would get surrounded and die."

"It is true there is a chance you will die if you get attacked, but it would be a loss for the world and the church if we keep you captive like a slave in a place to use you for healing magic."

Thank you very much. I will work hard for the sake of the church within the church.

"Yes!"

"Therefore. Even aristocrats take up their court ranks when they reach 20 years old. Even the church also send their personnel out at a certain age, so I will allow you to go on journey when you turn 20."

... Why did it become so?

"Yes!"

"Hence my first order to you is to, of course learn how to ride a horse, and also to make preparations accordingly."

A command huh. Okay then. I will make my own paradise.

"Yes! I will try my absolute best."

"Umu."

It seems like the official announcement for my journey when I turn 20 was adjusted to be announced together with the gradual implementation of the guideline and legislature. It would be jointly announced by the Pope and myself.

Along with that, I would likely also have to give guidance to the Healer's Guild and Healer's Clinics.

Thus the time limit until my journey begins had been set.

As the only S-rank healer in the world, I wanted to find an oasis to escape from the immense pressure.

I considered how I would spend my 1 year and 5 months.

I knew that my level might not rise if I continued to drink Object

X, so I decided to stop drinking Object X.

The other day, I sent a letter to Instructor Broad seeking permission to stop drinking Object X.

In addition to praising me for becoming a S-rank healer, the reply also touched on Object X.

[I was told that Object X was developed to make new adventurers slightly stronger, but I never heard of that side effect. It sounds like superstition, but you can try to verify if Object X is related to your problem of not levelling up. And it would be fine if your level goes up because of that. Luciel, I have a feeling that you will be significantly stronger than you are now when you level up. That is without a doubt, but it is also not completely true. No matter how high or how strong your physical ability becomes, you still only have one body. If you ever face a direct battle with an opponent of similar capabilities, escape without hesitation. You must never get defeated in battle. Because death comes hand-in-hand with defeat. If you act conceit, your ship to the netherworld would surely come greet you. If you become proud of your battles, I will reward you with the pain of getting slashed and chopped up so come to the Adventurer's Guild in Meratoni. If you can't then write me a letter and I will come to you. I've told you before but the difference in status is not absolute. Victory or defeat is decided not only by equipment, but also by luck, circumstances as well as compatibility. If you do not wish to listen to my advice, then you can do as you will as long as you defeat me. From Shisho-sama to foolish disciple.]

Although Shisho worked me hard that day, I am very thankful

that he truly understood my inherent nature.

I'm certain that he wanted to drag me back to the Adventurer's Guild to pound my character back into shape but was stopped from doing so.

It is still fresh in my mind, the moment when I bowed towards the direction of the town of Meratoni as I thought of my Shisho who has a broad view of the world and ponders deeply regarding everything.

"Since then I had not been to the labyrinth nor have I participated in the Valkyrie Paladin Corp's training, but other than that there hasn't been much of a change."

My 1 year and 5 months worth of time was precious.

I considered visiting Meratoni before setting out on my journey, but I still could not ride a horse so I had to seek help from Yanbusan and Fornoir first. And if possible, I would have also like to have Fornoir as my personal steed.

The other horses all ran away from me. There wasn't an atmosphere for horse riding as they flat out refused to let me ride them.

Moreover there was the problem of monsters. Unlike the undead in the labyrinth, the monsters above ground make sounds and their corpses do not disappear. Furthermore they have feelings,

they could cry and get angry. Monsters that can mimic others and monsters that display cooperation further makes me weak in the stomach.

In addition, the Pope also told me to continue working on healing in the Holy City before the guideline gets enforced. Of course, in order to prevent the healer's clinic from incurring losses for the time being, it was decided that I only heal once a month but as expected? (TL: I think the author meant as expected the clinics still faced losses.)

"Horse riding, monsters, healing. Furthermore, levelling up, church studies, and training. Ah, I haven't even taken my meal. How am I supposed to fall in love like this? O many protagonists, please give me strength to persevere."

I muttered as I returned to my room from the Pope's room.

『Kon Kon Kon』

"This is Maruruka from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. I've come to pick Lucielun-sama up."

Good. She didn't use honorific speech. But why did she come to pick me up?

"Yes. The door is not locked but, did something happen?"

『Kacha』 The door opened and I saw Maruruka's face. She spoke

from the doorway.

"Word is that Lucielun-sama would someday travel around the world so from today you would look for companions from each of the Knight Corps. Didn't you hear that you would be looking at my squad today?"

The development is advancing way too fast.

"I've not heard about that at all. Before that, my name is Luciel-sama ... no drop the -sama. It would be better if there were more people here so that I don't have to repeat myself ... Just don't call me Lucielun."

I faced the door while smiling.

"Well we would have bashed you up during training if you became haughty from your rapidly acquired authority."

"Are there only battle maniacs in this world?"

"Although my squad ranks first in defence among the Knight Corps, as said by a great man, offense is the best defence. Battles are not fought by numbers alone. That is the motto for my squad."

Was there a reincarnated person in the past? Wait, now that I think about it wasn't there supposed to be 9 other reincarnated individuals? I've completely forgotten about it. Eh, but I have no idea what's their name and neither do I know anything about

them? So how am I supposed to look for them?

" ... "

"Luciel? Why are you so stiff? Lumina-sama is waiting so let's hurry."

All thoughts about the reincarnated individuals and everything else stopped when I peeked at Maruruka's face. Maruruka-san had hazel-coloured short hair with blue eyes, looked fickle like a cat and had cute expressions. Each and every one of the people in this world are cute so I'm in a panic coping with it.

"Ah sorry. Let's go."

I put on my poker face and sealed my thoughts about the reincarnated individuals for now, as I moved towards the Valkyrie Paladin Corps training ground to consider the selection of knights.

Chapter 41: Church Knights' Joint Exercise

Currently, there are 8 Knight Corps that exist in the Saint Schull Church. There are 2 Knight Corps captains, one each for the Priest Knight Corps and the Paladin Corps. And ranked above them is the combined Knight Corps captain, which is Catherine Freya-san.

Priest Knight Corps mainly hold the responsibility of guarding the interior of the church. They are knights that act as bodyguards and are said to have sworn loyalty to the church for the sake of worshiping the gods.

For that reason, apart from those who hold the occupation of Knight during their coming of age ceremony, it is said that in rare cases those with absolute loyalty towards the gods have the chance to promote to a Priest Knight.

The Priest Knight Corps is said to be mainly made up of individuals who were naturally bestowed the occupation during their coming of age ceremony by the Chief God Kuraiya. Individuals holding either Light or Holy attribute can promote into Priest Knight but it is said that the selection by the Chief God is very strict.

Now, why did this piece of information float across my head? Because the members from all the Knight Corps were lined up in front of my eyes.

The place Maruruka-san brought me to was not the Valkyrie Paladin Corps training ground.

Furthermore, even Catherine-san came.

"Luciel-kun, if possible don't choose from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps ... you understand right?"

"Yes. It is already low on members so I will not pull any of them out from the squad."

"Fufufu. It helps that you understand quick. Then let's go. Lumina and girls come along too."

『Yes!』

The reason why they chose this location was because apparently this training field was used for joint exercises up until a few years back. But I felt that it was somewhat shocking to see so many people assembled.

While I had that in mind, Catherine-san calmly spoke in front of the large group of people.

"Everyone, apart from the minimum number of personnel tasked with security, I thank you all for answering to the emergency summons. The reason why I gathered you all here today is regarding the S-rank healer Luciel-kun here who may set off on a journey from the church a year and a half in the future. For that reason, we plan to establish a Knight squad to escort him but, you all don't know anything about him and neither does he know about

you all. Because of that, we will now conduct a joint training. I will say it beforehand, this is not a game. This time we will have the two Knight Corps battle each other. As long as you do not kill each other, Luciel-kun here will treat you. I will prepare a bonus for the Knight Corps that wins. There are 94 members in the Priest Knight Corps and 68 members in the Paladin Corps. Victory will be determined when the small flag placed on the helmet of the respective Knight Corps captain is taken down. Please compete using your respective strengths or with numbers. This exercise also doubles as the selection for Luciel's Knight squad but I hope that you all bear in mind that this is the first joint training with all the Knight Corps participating and compete earnestly. Understood?"

『Yeah!!』

At that instant I felt that the air was vibrating like it was shaken, an earthquake? No that's not the reason. Truth was that the cries were that amazingly loud.

Catherine-san and I overlooked the training ground from above reminiscent of the VIP seats in a certain place.

"I had no idea that the church had such a large facility."

I was surprised because I estimated that the facility was wide enough to house close to 8 lanes of athletic stadium 400 meter track.

"This training ground is used jointly by the Knight Corps so

normally one would not be able to enter. To use this area, you would need to get authorization from somebody above the rank of Knight Corp captain."

"Ah, so that's why the Valkyrie Paladin Corps couldn't use this place as well."

"Yeah. Either way this place is too big for their number of members."

"This time horses were not brought along so does the Priest Knights have the advantage?"

"Fufufu. Enjoy and see the battle for yourself."

After saying that, Catherine-san raised her hand before waving it downward.

At that instant, the atmosphere changed and roars broke out.

Of course, this was the first time I witnessed group combat. The training ground was dominated by tremendous fighting spirit and enthusiasm.

"The Knight Corps other than the Valkyrie Paladin Corps are acting a bit cowardly?"

"I emulated your Shisho and handled them just a bit. Only until a

few of them aren't able to fight anymore."

I remembered feeling a slight chill from Catherine-san when she said that, but I devoted myself to the group combat and observed carefully.

I was in a position slightly distanced from the battle but I still felt that if I was in one of the Knight's position, I would not be able to fight properly. As there would be a high chance that I would not be able to move, with my knees shaking from the fear.

The battle developed into the Paladins attacking and the Priest Knights defending.

"The Valkyrie Paladin Corps are projecting outwards from the formation, is it a strategy?"

"No, it's because of a different reason. That squad is strong. Because the length of time they continued putting effort into training is slightly different from the others."

"If that's the case, then as long as the Valkyrie Paladin Corps fail to break through then it's the Priest Knight's victory?"

"Yup."

Following that, the Priest Knights that have been devoting their efforts into defending the Knight captain from the beginning, swallowed up the Paladin captain with sheer numbers.

"The Valkyries each took out 3 opponents huh?"

"Yeah. They defended the captain well. Some day Luciel-kun would be standing there too."

" ... Hahaha. I will reject that with all my heart."

Just like that the combat ended and Catherine-san said words of appreciation to the Knights while I applied healing magic.

All the Knights were shocked by the effects of my healing magic but even I was also surprised by the effects. I found out that the 'Blessing of the God of Healing' was not a common title.

"This battle was fierce. I felt everyone's greatness. But the truth is I had not heard that there would be a new squad made from the Knights so I guess I was used to call for a joint exercise?" (Luciel)

"Yeah. You are right." (Catherine)

"If that's the case then it's nice that I won't have that to worry about for the remaining time of over a year. But I have realised the greatness of all of you Knights so there is a chance that I would come bother you all during training so I hope everyone will be kind to me."

"It looks like that will be the case so we will have a joint exercise

once a month. Everyone put your hearts into it and fulfil your duties. Understood?"

『Yeah!!』

Thus my meeting with the Knights ended but then somebody posted a question to me.

"Luciel-dono, may I?"

"Eh? Me? Yes, go ahead."

I was puzzled as I looked at the Priest Knight with his hand held up.

"I am Paralgis from the Shield Priest Knights. What are Luciel-dono's thoughts on the field of pharmacy."

Pharmacy. In this world, apart from magic there are also potions made from healing medicine and antidotes. I heard that there are a lot of conflicts between the two.

"I think that it is a great field of study. We can use magic to heal and cure but it is not possible to use magic without limit. The abnormal state of magic seal and traps are both realities in this world as well. That is why I think that pharmacy is great."

"Is Luciel-dono well versed in it?"

"No. I have only learned up to the extent of beginner and intermediate pharmaceutical knowledge in the Adventurer's Guild. I desperately tried to learn new arts to survive and the people around me couldn't watch me without doing anything so pharmacy was one of the common sense knowledge taught to me. I have never mixed a potion before."

"I see. I understand. Thank you."

"You're welcome."

"Luciel-kun I will contact you prior to the next training. All squads brace yourselves for the trainings and look forward to them. With this I end this round of joint exercise. Disperse."
(Catherine)

The training had ended, but I realised that it was bad that I had not thought about ways to heal injuries or illness without using magic. I decided to research on pharmacy and hence my to-do list had further increased.

First things first, tomorrow I will enter the labyrinth to confirm that my level can now rise. I left the training grounds with that in mind.

Chapter 42: Level Up And New Old Men

"Damn, I won't be able to fall asleep ... or that would have happened if not for this excellent pillow-sama."

Yesterday, I was feeling thrilled for the first time in a long time because I might have a chance to level up today so I was afraid that I would not be able to catch some sleep.

Nevertheless the Angel's Pillow is really a cheat item. It invited me to a pleasant sleep and before I knew it, it was morning.

"Well I say it's morning but it is still quite dim outside."

After finishing my daily routine of fundamental magic training, instead of going to the dining hall, I took out food from my magic bag and ate in my room.

Catherine-san told me that these were from the obachans from the dining hall, because they said that I might get into trouble with other church residents if I wait in line for my meal in the dining hall.

The church wiki, Catherine-san and Lumina-san, also nagged and warned me about other matters but it would make the meal unappetizing thinking about those so I shook my head and concentrated on the obachans' cooking.

"All done. Shall I depart?"

I entered the labyrinth dressed in full gear.

"Huh? There are no zombies in the first floor?"

I tried searching around for a bit but there wasn't any of those monsters that crawls towards you. I couldn't find any so I had no choice but to proceed to the next floor.

As usual, the labyrinth was illuminated as I advanced without getting lost. At last in the 3rd floor, I discovered zombies and skeletons ... and I chose to use purification magic.

"Ha~ It's terrifying."

When push comes to shove, I still felt the adrenaline pumping during combat, but the knowledge that this was not an illusion ... didn't shake my spirit and cause me to go into shock. Although, I still felt overwhelmingly strong feelings of fear towards the monsters and I thought back to the time when I was clearing the labyrinth.

"To think that I cleared this in the past ... Aren't I amazing? ... No, not good. I've heard that one will get old quicker if they cling on to their past glory. The director also said that doing so will make you less hard working."

As I advanced while thinking about my past life, I suddenly remembered about something important.

" ... Ah, status."

I silently recited status open in my mind and confirmed my status.

All my parameters certainly rose.

Name: Luciel

LV: 2 (1↑)

Job: Healer IX, Holy Dragon Knight I

HP: 860 (20↑)

MP: 570 (20↑)

Age: 18

ST: 600 (20↑)

STR: 144 (2↑)

INT: 162 (4↑)

VIT: 167 (4↑)

MGI: 186 (4↑)

DEX: 141 (4↑)

RMG: 178 (4↑)

AGI: 133 (4↑)

SP: 2 (2↑)

" ... It is certain that they increased. HP, MP and ST each rose by 20, the remaining parameters all rose by 4 each. (TL: STR only rose

by 2 but maybe the author calculated wrongly and intended to increase it by 4). SP increased to 2, if I remember correctly the God of Destiny's blessing increases my SP acquisition but its only by +1? Rather than that, normally I would only get 1 SP from a single level up?"

I looked at the ceiling as I questioned the God of Destiny, but of course there wasn't any reply so I decided to cherish the SP I have and save them up. Then, my rehabilitation to be able to fight with monsters using weapons began.

I used my shield to block the slow attack from the undead, as I channelled magical power into my Holy silver sword and slashed them. I was remarkably nervous for such a simple action.

"Broad-shisho, I had been acting conceited all this time. I was a real idiot to dual-wield when I did not have the foundation for it. Even if it's like a lion hunting a rabbit, I will do my best. I will devote myself to not underestimate the opponent from now on."

The monsters that appeared remained low in numbers until I finally reached the 10th floor boss room.

"Okay. I've reached level 5. Let's go back."

Even though it should only be around noon time since I entered the labyrinth, I was already exhausted from the immense tension on my mental spirit. I don't think that I would be defeated even if I went into the boss room but I will work hard at my own pace. I've decided.

Furthermore, I intend to go through more rehabilitation before I enter the 10th floor boss room, or else I might end up panicking like I did when I first entered it.

Reflecting back to that time, I felt ashamed of my recklessness. Along my way back from the labyrinth, I defeated more monsters and my level rose to 6.

"The accumulated 10 SP can be used to increase my skill or status but what should I do?"

Currently the skills that I want are Detect Enemy, Detect Presence, Stealth, Conceal Magic, Conceal Presence/Magical Power, following that I would also like to get Great Luck-sensei's brother Absolute Luck-dono, but I would not have enough SP to get that even if I reach level 45.

What awaited me as I exited the labyrinth while muttering, was Catherine-san with a resigned look in her eyes, and a small muscular daruma doll-san and a lanky fox beastman.

"Luciel-kun, it is fine for you to enter the labyrinth on your own but don't you know you have the obligation to report your intention to do so?"

"Ah, sorry. I was too excited ..."

That's right. I was now obligated to inform anybody of my

movements if I intend to go anywhere.

The reason given to me were that they might need to find me for the guideline and legislation or that the Pope may summon me.

"Well it doesn't matter. Truthfully I should have introduced you to them much earlier but this is the dwarf Grand-san and the fox beastman Toretto-san."

"Hoh. I'm Grand. All of the weapons in the Saint Schull Church are made by me. Anyway, that certainly isn't the physique of a healer."

"Fo~ That armour looks stylish as well. Ah, I'm Toretto. I'm the wholesaler for that church robe. Nevertheless that is a fine body. Doesn't look it belongs to a healer fo~."

A certain entertainer crossed my mind but I followed up with my own self introduction.

"Nice to meet you, I'm Luciel. I have been aided greatly by the items made by the 2 of you so I am grateful. ... By the way, why have you been touching my body since a while ago?"

That's right. They have been excessively touching every part of me without holding back. Catherine-san looked on with an amused expression and she signalled to me to not move with her eyes so I could only try asking.

"Of course it is because we need to tailor-make the weapons and armour to your skeleton and muscle build."

"That's right. It's not like I want to stoke that cute butt of yours. Even this. is. for. serious. work~"

If you had not guessed from his words, Toretto-san is a man. Even though it's over my robe but he's been touching my inner thigh and butt. No, isn't it just because he wants to touch me? He just wants to touch me right?"

"... Is that so."

Catherine-san's restrictive gaze strengthened so I resigned myself to fate.

For another 10 minutes or so I had to take different postures before I was finally released.

"Miss Catherine, this guy has meat in only some weird places but overall you've picked up a good one. It looks like he's been training properly. He might even become the strongest among the healers."

"Catherine-chan, so what should we use to make this kid's equipment?"

"Something that the 2 of you had never used before. He is holding on to it but we have no idea if you 2 can use them."

Catherine-san what are you doing? The 4 eyes that were on Catherine-san glared in my direction. If that's the case I better quickly take out the materials. That's what those eyes were telling me. You can really collect a large amount of information from a person's eyes.

"Have the Pope given her permission?"

"Of course, I've received her permission."

"Understood. It is this."

From my magic bag, I passed the Holy Dragon scale to Toretto-san and the Holy Dragon fang Grand-san. Their face of anger changed repeatedly between that of disbelief, of expression of joy like a small child, and of sorrow.

"What's the matter?"

"This is dragon right? To be honest, I've never tampered with this kind of material. I have the desire to do so. But I can't afford to fail."

"Me too. Even if I can't fire myself up but I want to use it. But I am insecure about using such a rare material."

Ah. I see. It is their first time seeing it. It is like in my case, when

I'm choosing between fighting or running from a higher rank monster.

"Well even if you fail, I have plenty more of the same material."

I took out more of the same fangs and scales. The 2 of them began trembling and shouted.

""If that was the case then take them out earlier!!""

And so my chance meeting with the 2 of them ended.

"Let's go? We should go immediately." (Grand)

"Catherine-chan, we'll be borrowing him." (Toretto)

"...? Where to?" (Luciel)

""Of course to our town!""

"Eh? Catherine-san?" (Luciel)

"Ah, it's impossible without assigning escorts to him, and the journey to your city easily takes 10 days." (Catherine)

""Che""

So what should we do in this situation? However before I said anything, Catherine-san opened her mouth.

"We have already finished our negotiation with the blacksmith in the Holy City so you all can immediately begin using it."

"Then let's go."

"Fofofo. It's time to show my skills."

Thus while under escort by Catherine-san, both my arms were firmly locked on both sides and I was worried that the suspicion that the Deviant Saint is gay would once again rekindle. However, everybody averted their eyes when they saw my eyes as I was forcibly whisked away, but I felt that they looked at me with pity so the rumour of me being gay was avoided.

(P.S. I guess the level up wasn't what many of you all expected :p. My thoughts are that the status increase skill he has applies to outside of levelling up. Just like his skills his status might have progression bar as well as he trains physically, uses magic or received damage and his natural status increase is much easier to achieve due to Object X. In contrast, his level up increases his stats by 4 just like everyone else. So he starts from a level 1 with ~160 stats compared to a normal level 1 with 20 stats across the board.)

Chapter 43: Eye Of The Artisan, Own Position, Luciel Learns Of The Cheat Protagonist

The arrival of legendary artisans in the Holy City's smithy caused a temporary disruption in its operation. The 2 were no longer treated as blacksmith and tailor but as super stars.

As I observed the chaos, I tried asking Catherine-san who was beside me.

"I was suddenly dragged here but are those 2 famous? It's such a frenzy that we almost can't even enter?"

"You didn't know? Firstly, Grand-san is the guildmaster for the Chamber of Commerce and stands at the apex as the eternal master craftsman within the dwarf blacksmiths certified by the Blacksmith Association. Likewise Toretto-san, even though he acts like that, comes from a legendary family and possess remarkable tailoring skill capable of making that Angel's Pillow, that only 5 others are capable of."

"... Seriously? Even just yesterday I was helped greatly by that pillow. Ah, now I have high expectations."

"I guess you would. Even I am also using that pillow, it's really amazing."

"Yeah. Is it possible that that item can be mass produced?"

"Maybe~. There are a variety of them. But they are busy people who rarely have time to spare so I don't know about that. The fact that you could meet them this time can be considered lucky."

"There are amazing people all around the world huh."

" ... Luciel-kun, it's about time you be slightly more aware of yourself?"

"Lately I have set a target for myself."

"What is it?"

"To live a mediocre life."

" ... Do you best."

"Understood."

We had that conversation while Grand-san and Toretto-san were being mobbed.

"Swing your sword downwards using your usual stance."

"Yes."

"Good. Don't move."

Currently measurements had ended, and they were examining the range of motion and places to stitch in the braids for the magic circles.

I became an existence like a mannequin, or like a golem who only moves according to commands.

The expression on the 2 of them was unlike before, with eyes that showed their desire to work with all their soul. Those eyes reminded me of the brewmaster I met in my previous life.

He maintains the temperature of the rice and the fermentation temperature for the yeast. He gets up during midnight and work to adjust the temperature by cooling the rice. When morning comes he drains the water from the rice and further steams and cools the rice before adding in yeast.

Those were the eyes of an artisan. It was different from the eyes of the presidents of construction companies when they inspect blueprints to look for anything missing.

These 2 people concentrated their eyes and their bodies moved in reaction to that. That was what I observed.

When all the steps had ended, the sun had already set and the 2 people returned to the expression they had when I first met them.

"Done. Let's go get a drink."

"That's a good idea. Catherine-chan come along too."

"Huh~ Just a bit okay."

Without asking for my opinion, the old man dwarf and fox as well as the people who lent the smithy walked towards the dining place.

Me? I was carried over their shoulders like a rucksack, do you have something to say?

I was brought to the dining place but I didn't drink any sake. The reason why I didn't drink was because I would think of Shisho if I drank.

Grand-san who asked me that laughed out loud before answering.

"You've piqued my interest, Luciel right? From today on I'll take care of maintaining all your equipment. That's why if you plan to drink with that Shisho or what not, come over to my place."

"Arara? Count me in as well."

After that, while having my back vigorously struck, the night continued on.

When I woke up the next morning, beside me was ... of course nobody was there. Because I was sober last night.

While doing my morning stretches and fundamental magic training, I recalled yesterday night's talk and saved the important points into memory.

- The fact that Catherine-san's level is 312.
- Catherine-san's expression when she said that the levels of Shisho and the others might be above hers.
- Grand-san and Toretto-san who said that I would not be able to stand on my own if I relied on SP.
- Everybody's astonished faces when I told them that I could acquire magic attribute using SP.
- The unnecessary talk about an Earth dragon sleeping in an underground mine.

When I was told to take out my map and showed the location, my heart skipped a beat. But when I saw that the location was without a doubt at that place, my tension fell immediately.

Unexpectedly Toretto-san ventured into a topic that raised my tension again. When this project is done, he would eventually give me a full length mirror. Of course, it is not a normal full-length mirror.

It's name was Transformation Dresser Mirror. It is an amazing item that is a simplified version of the magic bag. By placing your hand on the mirror you can immediately remove your armour or perform a quick change of clothes.

It can only record 10 patterns into its coordinate but the fact that it can recognize armour and clothes is amazing.

A point to take note is that when it cracks, all the clothing stored within will be ejected out, and weapons cannot be stored in it. Only those 2 points. It is not like it's a female's way of thinking, but armour is heavy and stiff. Wearing them all day would be bad for the body.

He made many items with old age in consideration. After discussing if making it was feasible, that was a prototype he made when he had free time.

This meeting must have been brought about by Great Luck-sensei for the first time since a long time. I thanked Great Luck-sensei in my mind. That was all that happened yesterday.

I thought of something my senpai told me in my previous life.

"Do not think that it is because of good luck that somebody did something for your sake. It is obvious if you think about it that it is because the people around you are supporting you. That is why show that you can give your best to do what you are capable of. You can surely change the world like that."

At that time when I was told that I didn't understand it, but now thinking back about those words I realised that I am blessed. Apart from the dragons and so forth, compared to yesterday when I am in the labyrinth, I felt like I could move forward slightly more today.

I advanced using the sword and shield until the 10th floor. Although I was still afraid of the 10th floor boss room I clenched my teeth and defeated the monsters using purification magic. The monsters that flocked to me was less compared to before, and I succeeded in defeating them.

After taking a long break, I fought another battle before I returned.

In the afternoon I borrowed Fornoir from Yanbus-san so I practiced my horse riding. After that, I applied purification magic on it together with all the other horses as well. I heard that, including Fornoir, all the other horses had better mood after I did so, so it became something I did regularly.

"Let me ride someday." I returned to my room after saying that and I read a book.

The title was 'The Legend of Rainstar Gustard'.

Because of the whole fiasco regarding my S-rank declaration, I decided to read about how he climbed to such heights.

I suspected that he was a reincarnated person as I read about his life.

In summary, he was born to a commoner and worked as a herbalist and shepherd when he was 5. When he was 7 he defeated the monster that attacked the village with a bow and became the village hero. At the age of 10 the orc herd attacked once again but he subdued them. This caught the eye of the Earl of Gustard and the Gustard family hired him for their daughter's school. Then, he travelled with a horse, which was said to be a pegasus. Thanks to the help from the pegasus, he laid down the foundation for a good friendship with the spirits. After that, he enrolled in a school for aristocrats. He earned full marks for all subjects and the top seat was taken by a commoner for the first time. But then the famous episode involving his meeting with influential aristocrats happened. After that, he took a break from school and was active as an adventurer. It's said that it was at that time that he started using various magic. The sharp readers might have guessed that Sir Rainstar married the only child Rizaria from the Gustard family and managed his territory while doing his best for the people. Omitted

When he was active as an adventurer, he applied healing magic on those who laid in bed ill and instead of money, he asked for vegetables as payment. This triggered something within him, and after he rose to the rank of SSS adventurer, he created the Healer's Guild so that the people in the world would not need to suffer from injuries.

I looked at the book and thought.

"There really are cheat protagonists. He entered the Earl's house as a son-in-law and increased his own wealth to pay for the establishment of the Healer's Guild, becoming the top of the Healer's Guild because he paid for everything, and above that he was also a SSS-rank adventurer? There was even a model episode that happened. He is the real protagonist. How conceit am I, to declare the same words as such a protagonist, making light of his life."

That night, I wet my pillow with tears.

Chapter 44: Own Weapon, Strongest Relationship, Survival Of The Fittest

I cried yesterday ... but it might have been good that I did so. I could reset my feelings after that.

I realised after reading about the legendary protagonist yesterday that when Instructor Broad said that I was weak, he wasn't only referring to battles.

However, I have 1 advantage over the cheat protagonist. I don't know if it just wasn't included in the biography, but I have Shisho, everybody from the Meratoni branch of Adventurer's Guild, as well as people who held a demonstration for my sake.

I realised this time as well that I do not need to find a solution on my own, that I am surrounded by fantastic people. Well it was also because I remembered what my senpai said, but it's not like I created a false image of myself on my own accord.

My goal is to die of old age. But I do have weaknesses like I easily get conceited and I have a cowardly personality. I admit that. But what am I left with? The ability to work hard? The will to carry on? Both are wrong.

"It is that I am dependable. Actually I am blessed with good and caring people so I can work hard but isn't being dependable an amazing weapon? That's why if I can be relied upon by those who are dependable, it's a win-win situation. Even if it's not the strongest, it's the best feeling."

Just like that I converted my tears from yesterday into positivity and decided to return to my initial resolution. Of course I can't really follow my initial intentions of returning to Meratoni so I decided to continue being active in healing people at the Holy City's Adventurer's Guild. But I was called out to immediately after I stepped out from my room.

"Good morning Luciel-kun. Do you want to participate in today's exercise?"

"Good morning. Lumina-sama. Your squad's exercise? But I can still only ride on Fornoir?"

"I know. You can ride him today so be at ease. Furthermore you will be setting off on a journey in the future right? When you do so, you will have to fight with monsters. There are many other kinds of monsters here apart from those in the labyrinth. It would be better if you get accustomed to them too."

Somehow, I could only see those girls as battle maniacs lately so it's a little strange. Even though they are so pretty, did they become like that because their occupation is Paladin? I chose to participate while thinking about that.

"Please take care of me. By the way, do monsters really have feelings?"

"Yeah. Among them there is even one that pleads for its life."

"The monsters in the labyrinth are way better."

"Yeah."

Why does she have such an awfully good looking figure? I asked about the Valkyrie Paladin Corps because I had not seen them since the joint exercise, while I had that thought in my mind.

"By the way, what is everyone's level? I became level 11 yesterday."

"Is that so? It's fine to boast. The Valkyrie Paladin Corps members are all above 130. Because they had been participating in that training since level 1."

"If that's the case then it couldn't be helped that I couldn't win against them."

"Well, yeah."

"Where do you plan to go today?"

"Don't worry, we are only revolving around the periphery of the Holy City."

"Understood."

While we were having this silly little talk, we met up with everybody from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps riding on their favourite horses. Fornoir who was there before me looked like it was telling me to ride it so I mounted it.

"Please take care of me."

Thus my first exercise started.

So this is horse riding. Running at a considerable speed, I felt like I was swaying back and forth so I firmly held on with the inside of my hips so that I wouldn't fall off, as I rode while having faith in Fornoir.

However, when someone else spoke to me I didn't have the leeway to reply. The Valkyrie Paladin Corps in front of me felt puzzled as it was unlike me to not reply, so they looked back. When they saw my horse riding posture, I could guess that they were all laughing.

Just like how my heart throbbed when I first rode on a motorcycle, but with even greater violent swinging, I remained in the state of trying to not fall off until the call to take a break sounds out.

"We'll take a break for a while here."

Following Lumina-san's orders, I dismounted from Fornoir and

immediately my crotch felt like it was being suspended? While feeling surprised from that, I applied purification magic on Fornoir as I thanked him.

"Thank you. I'll try my best to be able to ride better."

"Buruurururu"

That neigh sounded to me like he was saying please do so. That's what I felt it was. Yanbus-san said that the horse will feel a lot worse if somebody unskilled rode on it, just like how a motorcycle won't be able to complain but the tires will wear out and you will need to do maintenance for it earlier.

"Luciel ... sama? Just now your posture on horseback, was like a stone statue you know?"

"Awkward."

Beatrice-san and Kathy-san said in combination. I noticed that their eyes were laughing but they had straight faces on.

" ... There's no need to add sama in. I am a provisional member but I am still a fresh recruit in the Valkyrie Paladin Corps."

Upon saying so, I wonder how much they had been holding it in? They burst out laughing right in front of my face and I also laughed looking at that sight.

Was it because it heard the sound of our loud laughter? A minicar appeared ... ah, no it's a forest boar. That's right. It's the same as the one I first saw Garba-san dismantle.

"Is ... Isn't that bad?"

I voiced out but the reaction around me was different.

"It kinda looks like it can be eaten."

"You'll need to let out the blood. If you do so then there wouldn't be a problem."

"Just nice, I've brought along a frying pan as well."

"That's so like you Elizabeth. If only there's sake as well."

"Even though you are the one that can't hold your liquor. There's no need to forcibly use your old man speech."

"Can I defeat it?"

"Instead of you, Luciel-san should be the one who undertakes it right? That's what I was told."

"Sympathy is unnecessary. It would be pitiful for the monster if

you hesitate and injure it countless times instead."

"Luciel, show us how much you have grown."

"I'll gather your bones."

"The best place to cut is the scruff of the neck. The head is tough so I suggest you avoid it."

To say it like it is normal. Is this a punitive expedition and furthermore only by myself alone? I couldn't make up my mind.

"No no, as expected I can't win against that. What is its weak points? Lumina-sama."

"It is important that we cure that cowardly heart of yours for the sake of your combat occupation ... you should be able to subdue something of that level. At any rate it only charges straight forward and it doesn't have a breath attack. Go on, do your best."

She lightly pushed my back but my heart completely withered away.

"I'm off."

I declared and started walking towards the forest boar.

"Yeah. Be careful."

Immediately after sending me off, they all started preparing for something that looks like a barbecue.

It charged towards me as I approached it, while I tried my best to not fall into desperation.

"Kuraiya-sama, God of Healing-sama, God of Destiny-sama, God, Buddha, Ancestors, please lend me strength."

The forest boar accelerated, I estimated it reached about 80km/hr. As I felt terrified at the pressure emitted by the forest boar, I threw a dagger.

I'm a healer okay. And I've learned from my experience of being reckless.

The dagger that was filled to the brim with magical power pierced the eye of the forest boar. But it didn't stop its charge.

" ? ! Why? Well I have another one anyway."

After I threw the other dagger, I prepared my shield and sword ... as well as secretly activating a barrier. I planned to dodge the forest boar's charge and parry with a sword thrust towards its head. But the 2nd dagger pierced the other eye this time, and it pitched forward and fell half a rotation, showing its belly to me before it began convulsing.

" ... I'm sorry."

I apologized while I swung my magic channelled sword downward towards its neck. After doing so, I looked back and saw that the girls were walking to my side.

"Why did you cut off its head when it was already in that situation?"

"I'll immediately prepare to let out the blood."

"Lightly grill the viscera. I wish there was sake as side dish."

"Like I said you can't even drink that well. And also monsters are different from animals, their viscera contains miasma so without purification you can't eat them."

"Purification?"

"Purification?"

"Purification?"

"Luciel, please immediately cast purification on the viscera."

The girls stared in my direction. I knew at that moment that I

had no right to reject them.

Even Lumina-san was mixed in within those glares. Just like an Archbishop from the church whose name floated into my head, I apologized and quoted him.

Lumina-san, even you huh.

Thus in front of the meat-eating girl's eyes, I wastefully? casted purification and the nominal exercise became a barbeque convention. It was extremely tasty, but it's my secret that I somehow had sweat spilling from my eyes.

After this encounter with a wild monster, my stomach hurt thinking about how I'll have many more from now on, and I decided to never travel on my own.

Chapter 45: The New Equipment Is Now The Favourite

3 months would soon pass since that exercise with Lumina-san and the girls.

I have been diving into the labyrinth, participating in the Knight Corp's barbeque convention formally called an exercise as the purification personnel, and have been caught in the scramble to have me participate in their exercises.

Thanks to that, I now have a strange feeling of having a mournful heart instead of a fearful heart towards the terrestrial monsters.

Thankfully, nobody aside from the Knight Corps know about this so I didn't get a new nickname like 'Repulsive Eater'.

Thanks to that, I've been able to talk informally with the members from the Knight Corps.

As expected, everybody's feelings loosens up during meal times. Wait, even in my previous life, I think I was good at sealing many business deals during lunch as well, so maybe there is some truth in this?

As I was thinking about such things, I arrived at the smithy.

That's right. I was told that my equipment had been completed.

It felt like Grand-san and Toretto-san had completely taken over the smithy as the owner, but somehow the original owner of the workshop seemed happy about it.

Well that's what happens when you have the prestige, but watching the 2 of them makes others want to work harder, together with the chance to memorize new techniques and, even though they are getting old, the appeal of their amazing technique never changes.

Even though normally he is also in the position to teach, for him to believe that this is a chance opportunity, I admire the flexible thinking of the workshop's owner.

Because the average sales wouldn't increase, there are some who would stubbornly reject letting them use the workshop.

Currently, I was stiff from astonishment looking at the equipment made by the 2 of them.

The equipment in front of my eyes were beyond my expectations, to the extent that I looked twice. I trusted the 2 of them and left all the decisions up to them. Instead of my amateur opinion, I believed in that insight that seemed like they understood me.

"Fofofo. Hey, how is it? Amazing right? Apart from preventing miasma and having the ability to regulate body temperature, it also

has the effect of masking your magical power and presence. Of course, it is also resistant to blades and magical attacks."

"Kukuku. Gave you a surprise right? This can become hard when magical power is channelled into it. In addition, it can aid spells and can be used as a booster. If you channel magical power through it, the spell's effect would increase according to the amount of magical power you pour into it."

The 2 of them did a good job. They showed an expression full of a sense of accomplishment. But of course as usual I didn't have a chance to speak out.

I swung my sword, had my butt touched, discussed the range of motion and the position to engrave the magic circles, had my inner thigh stroked, and told them my battle stance. That was what I went through during measurements. I shut my eyes, took a deep breath twice, before asking the 2 of them.

"Firstly Grand-san, I'm pretty sure I swung a sword but why is it that you made a cane? And Toretto-san, even though you made me put on so many sets of armour, why is the finish product not a set of armour but instead the inner wear worn under the armour?"

I couldn't understand.

"Ah? Oh. This is a sword cane. It was the idea of a swordsman who used a katana. You just have to do this." He manipulated the cane and somehow it became a sword.

"Ha?"

Like in my previous life, instead of an instantaneous change it was more like an illusion. Sword canes have a sheath but this one doesn't. It suddenly changed into a one-handed sword.

"Were you surprised? The dragon pattern on the handle was specially crafted."

Ignoring the dazzled youngster look from Grand-san, the dragon pattern was impressive.

"If that's how it is, then I have a feeling that it's the same here?"

"Eh? There's no way it's like that. But its strength should be greater than the armour you are wearing right now? It would be weird if a healer like you is overdressed in public right?"

"This clothes is stronger than armour?!"

"Fo~ It's because my tension was raised. Also the body touching was ... my hobby. ///"

... I didn't want to know that. It seems like the legendary clan lives up to its name.

I took the transformation sword and tried changing it into a sword and a cane. Yup. I love it. The dragon crafted on the handle

looks like the dragon sword used by the father of a certain manga's protagonist. It looked cool and I was excited to the point of almost wanting to scream out.

"Wait Luciel-kun. I would also like you to try wearing this."

Toretto-san called out. I noticed everybody's line of sight and it was time to change.

"How is it?"

"It looks great on you. Even though it makes you look slightly more like an uncle, you should be able to wear it out in public. Fo~."

"Yup. I was also thinking that it looks great on you. It has a sense of refinement, and if you wear a robe over it, I think you would look the part for a S-rank healer."

"Also if you add in this sword cane ... illusionary cane, it would be perfect."

"That's great. Also, here."

Toretto-san rummaged through his magic bag and took out the full-length mirror.

"Is that?"

"Yeah. Luciel-kun, no, Luciel-chan, it is the Transformation Dresser Mirror you wanted. It looked like I would have had to spend a long time making this set of clothes, so I had it brought over."

"Thank you very much."

"I'm glad you like it."

"Yeah. I had the chance to make something good and got paid for it so it's a matter for great celebrations. If you have something else you wish to make or if you need maintenance, contact me. I'll let my underlings know."

"Me too. That item you asked for is a prototype, so please contact me. Come look for me if you come to the town of craftsmen. I'll give you plenty. of. service.~"

Brrrr. I had goosebumps but I stuck on a smile and laughed.

I was also told to get Instructor Broad's permission to drink sake before I came to the town of craftsmen. After that, Catherine-san and I returned to the church. Along the way, I was curious about something so I asked Catherine-san.

"Oh yeah, Just now Grand-san mentioned about production cost for my equipment. How much was it?"

Catherine-san replied with a smile.

"People are happier not knowing about some things. Well we did get a discount and we provided many dragon materials, so it's about the total of all the magic stones that Luciel-kun accumulated from diving into the labyrinth."

"Is that so."

At that time I had no idea what the price of magic stone was and neither did I know how much I had earned. It's something I learned in the distant future, but I turned pale when I found out.

Chapter 46: Luciel, Notices What He Is Lacking

"Ooo wow!! Then if I do this? Oo! Ah, my vocabulary is limited~. But it's amazing!"

I was playing with the Transformation Dresser Mirror without noticing that my voice could be heard just slightly from outside my room.

Apart from my underwear, I tried changing into my inner wear and armour and saving them into coordinates. It was just like changing the clothes on a game avatar. I transformed into my robe attire.

It was simple to use. When the registered owner of the mirror places his hand on the mirror, the coordinate numbers would be displayed. Pressing on any of the numbers will show the fields to register, erase or transform.

Pressing 'register' will cause it to memorize your current appearance, and 'erase' will remove whatever that was saved into that coordinate. 'Transform' will allow you to transform into the attire saved into the coordinate.

Although only 10 patterns can be recorded, the attires or armour can be stored within the mirror similar to how a magic bag works. The mirror functions by using that internal storage to allow you to instantly transform and change attire.

If there is such a technique available then are there also photos and projectors? I hadn't thought of that so I decided to try asking Toretto-san about it next time.

"It should be fine to configure this Holy Dragon attire and robe as my default right ... ?"

But, I realised an important fact at this moment.

"Eh? ... Including the default, I only have 3 other coordinates?"

I recalled. Since I entered the labyrinth, I was able to use purification magic so I pretty much wore the same clothes all the way. That's because it could even clean up to the underwear that I was wearing.

"Hmm? Am I a bit dirty ... No, I did purification so I don't think that I'm dirty. But if I set off on a journey, I don't think I have any of the necessities of life: food, clothing and shelter, prepared."

The clothes I received from everybody in the town of Meratoni were almost all destroyed during combat with Instructor Broad so when I first came to the church headquarters I only had 3 sets of clothing left. After that I received my church robe, 3 sets of armour that I bought for the sake of the labyrinth, as well as the Holy Dragon attire that I was wearing now.

I pre-registered 2 of the armour sets but realistically speaking

there would be a higher chance that I use the full body equipment I got from the 40th floor.

"Wait a minute. Now that I think about it, I have always tied up my hair and so I've never felt my hair growing but ... I've never cut my hair since coming to the church?"

From then on I sped up my preparation for food, clothing and shelter at once.

Since coming to this world, I've only ate what Grulga-san and the obachans cooked, as well as the meals from the dining place ... I've never once cooked my own meals.

As for shelter, as long as I have the Angel's Pillow I would be fine sleeping anywhere. But this time I would be moving around, I was told that using a carriage was not feasible, and I would also need to consider the safety of Fornoir (already fully intending to bring Fornoir along).

... I only have a little over a year and a month? Eh? I'm in trouble? The time would be gone in a flash. Furthermore as a S-rank healer I'm supposed to travel around the world, but I don't even know about the present status of the healer's clinics. Don't tell me that I'm going to become a wandering healer who would end up triggering another crisis?

I was panicking about how I was indifferent about the situation regarding my food, clothes, lodging and work. I pulled out a parchment from my magic bag and began writing down all the

important things that I thought I need to prepare from now.

"I need to get a grip. It is wrong to not utilize the skills I had cultivated in my previous life to survive in this other world."

What I learned from my first year of becoming a working adult was, to have a schedule book, to take notes and to greet properly.

I was told that putting that into practice or not would affect the speed of my growth in the future. In this world, there aren't any information transmission platforms like the newspapers or television so I neglected gathering information.

Although my mind isn't that bright, why didn't I realize that sooner? ... I took in a deep breath and renewed my resolve.

"Suu Haa~. Regrets can happen any time. I'll properly do some reflections. But for now I have to advance forward, even if it is just one step."

Firstly, preparation for my journey. Next, I must grasp the current situation of the healer's clinics. I have to consult somebody for this, so I headed straight for the Adventurer's Guild.

Whenever I visit the Adventurer's Guild it would definitely be treated as a Deviant Saint Whimsical Day, so patients would be carried over. And the old would also come.

After I obtained the Blessing from the God of Healing, whenever I

cast 「Heal」 on the elderly who had to use a cane to walk due to poor blood circulation from cartilage and bone thought to be torn or broken, it will be repaired and they could walk home without using a cane.

I and everyone around who saw that were surprised, but they shrugged it off saying that the healing magic of the Deviant Saint is as deviant as the person himself. It's still fresh in my mind that I shed tears in my heart that day.

"Fuu~. Well then everyone, please be careful of injuries. Because it can be life threatening."

The people within my sphere of 「Area High Heal」 gave words of appreciation, as I left the underground training field.

"So what business do you have today? I will do my best as long as it is within my power, Deviant Saint-sama."

"It feels bad to be called Deviant Saint-sama by Granz guildmaster ... please stop it attaching sama to my name."

"You're really not nice to tease. You also added guild to my name as well right. So what did you come here to consult for?"

"Usually where do the adventurers go to for a haircut? Also, Master Granz is growing a beard but where do the others go to trim their beard?"

Eh? Why is he staring at me like he is looking at a pitiful child?

"So you also have some things that you don't know. Because the Deviant Saint devotes himself to asceticism right. For beards, you can buy a magic razor from the magic tool shop. There are some who use a knife for that but if you are not accustomed to it you might cut your face so I advice you not to do so."

"Yeah. I'm clumsy anyway ..."

"As for your hair, the blacksmith sells scissors so you can use those to cut it, or there are salons in the city that you can go to?"

Eh? There are barber shops or hairdressing shops? Am I really that clueless? I was shocked and replied.

"Are there anything else? Please tell me one-by-one everything else within this city."

Adventurer's Guild guildmaster Granz-san is a great person.

Regarding cooking, he taught me where to get wholesale for or to purchase spices, vegetables and meat. He even taught me his own recipe he experimented with as well as the right conditions to cook them in.

In addition, he even wrote a referral letter for me to his recommended blacksmith for cooking utensils and kitchen knife. Naturally he also taught me where the shop was located. And the

most remarkable part was the guildmaster's cooking class.

When we were talking, Milti-san came by and also taught me how to cook and joined the conversation. This slowly became a rumour, that the hard-faced guildmaster gives gentle guidance for cooking.

And so Granz-san was called the kind hard-faced cooking expert immediately after I began my journey.

"Oh yeah Milti-san. Among the tailors here, are there any shops that sell simple and smart designs that will at the very least not be looked down upon by nobles from foreign countries."

"Hmm~. I do know of one but Luciel-sama should go there with a girl."

"... Eh? Why?"

"Because the female eyes are sharper compared to male eyes."

"... Understood."

So for the shop, somebody female ... Catherine-san, Lumina-san, the girls from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps. If I asked any of them, would my relationship with them become estranged? But first off, I'm relieved that my worries regarding food was over.

While thinking about who to look for to go together to the magic tool shop and tailor, animal therapy is the best when feeling gloomy so I walked towards the stables to play with animals.

That day, I rode the four year old stallion Malto who bit my head for the first time, but was kicked off after a few steps.

Yanbus-san said only one sentence.

"You are gaining the trust of the horses little-by-little."

I set my goal to be able to ride all the horses in this stable by one year later, and to set off on the journey riding Fornoir.

Chapter 47: Date, Reincarnated Individual Found?

It's right after yesterday, I'm currently shopping together with a girl named Rosa-san. It has been close to 2 years since I met Rosa-san.

"Luciel-sama, we've arrived."

"So this is Sense Boutique?"

Even from the outside the shop looked like it operates at quite a large scale.

"Hey, let's go in."

I led Rosa-san by the arm into the shop. The interior of the shop was wide, bright and had a sense of cleanliness.

"Welcome. Well isn't it Rosa-san."

"Long time no see, Anna."

"Aren't you supposed to be serving right now?"

"Yeah. But today I was brought along here to help this person choose his attire."

"Ara, cougar-san?" (TL: Cougar = A term used to call older women who look for younger men)

"What are you talking about. This is Luciel-sama. Around here you would know him better as Deviant Saint-sama?"

"Ooh, Deviant Saint-sama is pretty young huh~. Ara, does the Deviant Saint-sama wish to have his attire made-to-order?"

"That's right. Ah, nice to meet you, I'm Luciel. I wish to buy multiple combinations of clothes."

"Ara, so generous."

"That's right. Because Deviant Saint-sama is wealthy."

"As expected of Rosa. Then I'll call my daughter over. Ah by the way, would the lady be buying anything?"

"I'm fine."

"Yes she will. Rosa-san don't be shy. It will soon be 2 years and I hope that you'll prepare food for me for another year as well."

"Are you sure?"

"Yeah. I've been in your care so I wish to return the favour."

"If so then I'll take up your offer."

"Fufufu. Thank you for your patronage."

We searched for my attire while surveying the inside of the shop. Eh? Rosa-san? She's the serving obachan. Of course, there was a reason why I brought along Rosa-san, who has an age gap from me like a parent and child, to buy clothes.

Yesterday when I was returning Malto to the stables, I bumped into the girls from the Valkyrie Paladin Corps and I boldly asked them.

"Would any of you like to help me choose my casual wear? Of course, I'll offer something as thanks."

The replies were as I expected.

- I don't know the shop.

- Can't you go with the church-specified shop?

- I would tag along if it was to the blacksmith or the weapons

shop.

Thus I did not go shopping with the girls.

Next, I had an obligation to report in, so I asked the same of Catherine-san, and that was when she introduced Rosa-san to me.

"Rosa-san helped to buy casual wear for me and her holiness."

"Don't you purchase them yourself?"

"I only go out to visit to the weapons shop, for meals or at most to purchase magic tools. That's why I don't know anything about clothes. Rosa-san was originally the aide for her holiness so she is well-informed."

"Is that so. I'll ask Rosa-san then."

"Okay."

After such an exchange, I ended up coming to the shop with Rosa-san.

In the meantime, my measurements were taken and she selected a few button shirts from a row of neatly arranged shirts. Next, jackets and tunics were chosen and fastened together with a belt, and to complete the set, skinny pants and cargo pants were automatically chosen. She helped to choose everything, even

including the boots.

Although even my comments on my preferred colour and shape were rejected, lately I had not had a close look at myself so I left the decisions up to Rosa-san, Anna-san and Anna-san's daughter.

By the way her daughter was 22 years old, already married and well into her pregnancy. She wanted a 「Heal」 as something like a blessing from Deviant Saint-sama so I obliged.

In a blink of the eye, the attires within my coordinate could last me up to 2 weeks so I paid upfront in full and left the shop.

"Thank you very much." (Luciel)

"Thank you for buying clothes for me as well." (Rosa)

"Don't mention it. Shall I send you back?"

"Hahaha. I'm not that weak. And it will be a waste of Deviant Saint-sama's time."

"Okay. Well then take care."

I bid farewell to Rosa-san and headed to the magic tool shop.

"So it's here. I've heard that lately interesting inventions have

been released so I'm feeling excited."

The magic tool shop gave off an atmosphere similar to the used-book stores I passed by in Jinbocho during my previous life. (TL: Jinbocho in Tokyo is a well-known street for used-book stores, antique and curio shops).

I was suddenly given a surprise when I opened the door.

『Weeelcoome to the Maaagicc Toool Shoopp Commedia.』

As soon as I opened the door, a golem bowed right in front of me and I had no idea where the voice came out from but it welcomed me. Then, the 『DotaDota』 sound signified that somebody was coming over to greet me.

"Welcome to the Magic Tool Shop Commedia~"

The kid that appeared was a spectacled girl with a short-cut hairstyle.

"Ah~ that matches well with the magic tool shop."

"Yeah. Ah, you mean this? This is called 'spectacles'. It can let you see far off objects clearly and was also developed for the elderly who have trouble seeing objects up close."

Eh? There was an other world individual so close by? Or maybe

somebody who was involved with one? Well I had already decided on my response.

"Ooo~ Is that so. I've heard that there are a lot of interesting things here?"

"Thank you very much. Then I'll give you a tour."

The girl joyfully explained all the merchandise one-by-one.

I was confident, that the girl was the owner of the shop and that she was the same age as me. And that all the magic tools here were electrical appliances from Earth that were converted into magical appliances, becoming known as magic tools.

Furthermore, even though I don't need them, there was a range of tools from the cleaning genre, like dryers, washing machines and vacuum cleaners.

So I didn't buy anything? Nope, I went on a shopping spree instead.

Magic stove, magic water filter, magic air-condition, magic heater, magic Goemon bath, magic garbage disposal unit, magic air bed, magic mixer, magic juicer and various other items totalled up to 11 gold coins. (TL: Goemon baths are the usual traditional bath tubs you see in anime, with a wooden cover over it and heated from below. It's named after the robber Ishikawa Goemon who was boiled to death in one.)

When I bought all the items, she prostrated on the ground with vigor (TL: Prostrated = Dogeza = Orz). As I thought that it would be interesting if I introduced her to Toretto-san the next time, I tried consulting her about something I would like her to make for me.

"Thank you very much. But I still have some ways to go before I am able to make that."

I heard in detail that to develop something there are various conditions. Apparently it depends on the magic stone's attribute, her skill level and her Magic Engineer occupation level.

"Wouldn't this have the skill to perform 「Appraisal」 as well? I've tried making that before but I still lack the technical abilities to achieve it."

While the girl said that with her head hanging down, I continued acting like I had no idea what the item she wanted to appraise was, and remained as the customer who has plenty of money to spend.

I'm convinced that I will meet this young girl Ryina countless times in the future.

Chapter 48: Training Direction Determined

In the usual spacious room, the concealed female quietly listened to me until the end before softly speaking.

"I see. What you are saying is reasonable. But I had never imagined that you have never entered a healer's clinic before."

Including the Pope in front of me, the surrounding handmaidens all had looks of astonishment.

"Because for my case I was in the Adventurer's Guild since the beginning."

I informed her that I don't even have any clue about this country's healer clinics. If I was to judge the difference between the healer clinics of other countries and this country, instead of listening to the present state and condition of the healer clinics, I would prefer to learn about it on-site.

"I would like to immediately transfer your workplace, but as expected there are no healer clinics in this country that do not know about you, so we might as well send you to the healer clinic belonging to the guy that was the cause for your transfer here in the first place?"

"... Are you referring to the town of Meratoni?"

"That's right. The distance between Meratoni and the Holy City

is less than 2 days worth, so it's a distance that we can immediately call you back, and immediately receive your report if there is a need to so there won't be any problems."

Huh? Was it that close by? Oh well it doesn't matter. Rather than that, I wonder if it would be fine for me to be active as a healer in that town?

"... Erm is it fine for me to go to that healer clinic?"

"Umu. The die had been cast since the moment you were appointed as a S-rank healer. You will face hardship no matter which road you take from here on out. But if you return that clinic how it originally was then I will ..."

I felt that somewhere within that pretty and mysterious voice was the Pope's true wish.

"Thank you very much. If so then I will convey that intention to the other party. I will entrust my travel schedule to you."

"I will leave this matter in your hands. That's right Luciel, one year later, I intend to send you to the Free City-State of Ienith so read up about it beforehand."

"Speaking of the Free City-State of Ienith, those beastmen succeeded in establishing the Healer's Guild in their country?"

"To be exact they had originally succeeded in doing so, but

problems sprung up from various fronts and it had now stopped functioning. I believe you should be able to create a good environment if you are the one who builds up the foundation there. That is why I wish to entrust the helm to you with regards to Ienith's Healer's Guild and healer clinic.

" ... Hah?"

What is this person saying?

"Please take the helm."

I'm not referring to that.

" ... I wish for supporters."

It's definitely impossible alone.

"Umu. I know so don't worry. As long as you lay the foundation successfully, you would be able to handle everything else, so I hope that you do not push yourself and take care during your journey."

I wondered how many hands did she anticipate in advance, like a professional shogi player, or was it because I wasn't thinking at all? I questioned myself as I nodded.

" ... I'll see what I can do."

I left the Pope's room. So the next target for my learning is ... was it Botacyl? Or? Oh well it's something along that line. It would be the healer clinic managed by the healer with that name. And my first travel destination will be the Free City-State of Ienith.

On the map, it is located north of Saint Schull which is opposite the Elimasia Empire and Rubruk Kingdom.

"All that's left is to prepare the items needed during the journey as well as the place to sleep when travelling, but since I'll be going to Meratoni I can just ask Shisho and the others."

It's important to rush forward when you have a vision of the future. But as of now I'm supposed to be at a step before that.

Although my direction for the near future had been set, for now I will focus on the present by scrutinizing the information that I had obtained and make appropriate preparations. I made up my mind and headed to the Labyrinth of Tribulations.

Currently, my rehabilitation had been steadily progressing and I was now at the 30th floor boss battle ground. This was all thanks to the illusionary cane.

Using this cane that amplifies magical power, chanting purification magic purified the 30 meter squared boss room at one go, defeating all the monsters.

I was amazed when I used it. 「Area Barrier」's defence was

strengthened and its effect even covered my shield. Although it is only a defensive magic, I was afraid of this overwhelmingly cheat weapon. (TL: Remember, the Valkyries couldn't even break through his barrier before this)

I firmly defended with my shield and dealt the final blows with my transformed one-handed sword. This was my exorcist role given to me only once a week.

"Knowing that the higher levelled Paladins and Priest Knights couldn't win against these really makes me think about the importance of compatibility for battles."

I slashed at the Wraiths that floated over with broad grins asking to be cut down. This repeated endlessly as they properly acted as my source of experience points.

Wraith-san gives quite a sizable amount of experience points, so I had finally reached level 55. But I have never once regretted drinking Object X.

However, I would have died if not for it so I now have 10 barrels of it in my magic bag as protection. The demerit of not levelling up was compensated by the rise in all status parameters as well as the increase in various passive resistance skill proficiencies.

In addition, I've seriously considered that the +4 increase in parameters per level up was really low, but in half a year all my statuses had already more than doubled so I was greatly mistaken.

"Status do not win fights. I have no intention of forgetting about that. The ability to draw out the best from the status is a factor as well, and if you do not gradually expand the limiter placed on your brain, you wouldn't be able to move as you wish anyway."

I tried asking Catherine-san if that was the reason why a person would lose in a fight even if the values of his status was higher. Her reply was that if I have the spare time to think about such things, I might as well experience it myself in real combat, and she threw me into the Knight Corps joint training where I was viciously beaten up.

"If you cast 「Area Barrier」 the defensive values around you would increase over the top so I will treat it as a foul."

Because of that, during group combat training, I was strictly prohibited from using 「Area Barrier」, 「Area Middle Heal」 and 「Area High Heal」.

On one side I slashed somebody, and on the other I immediately healed them. Due to that they looked just like zombies, which led to the church Knight Corps being called the Zombie Knight Corps.

I overdid it too much in the beginning, until I was called the Ultra-Sadistic Healer Knight Captain in the shadows. It was just last month that this tear-inducing incident happened.

Ehem. Moving on, the Pope also strictly prohibited me from using 「Extra Heal」 and 「Sanctuary Circle」. I was only allowed to use them when there is an impending danger towards my life or

when I judge that it is a situation that I must use it.

I had finally amassed 108 SP but I was struggling every day between inviting Great Luck-sensei's brother into my skill repertoire or to systematically acquire all the magic attributes. I 'consulted' Shisho in the labyrinth before returning. In 2 months time, I will be setting off to Meratoni with Fornoir.

Chapter 49: Triumphant Return To Meratoni, Botacyl's Approaching Crisis

Today was the 4th day of my journey as I rode on Fornoir towards my target destination, the healer clinic in the town of Meratoni, to understand the current situation of healer clinics as requested by me 2 months ago.

I ordered a set of horse armour from the blacksmith which doesn't hurt the body of the horse and also made maintaining the riding posture easier. I progressed while occasionally casting 「Heal」 and purification magic on Fornoir.

I set off 3 days ago, following the route that I initially used to travel to the Holy City Schull.

The reason was simple. This time the ones travelling was not only Fornoir and I.

The fellow travellers who accepted my escort request was the guys from the White Wolf's Bloodline.

"We've finally meet again, Deviant Saint-sama."

"Luciel-sama had instantly became famous after all."

"As expected of Ultra-Sadistic Healer Knight Captain-sama. We have been waiting in anticipation."

Bazzan-san, Skyros-san and Basra-san spoke in sequence.

"Please stop attaching -sama to my name, and rather than that please stop using my nicknames. Especially Basra-san, why do you know the newest nickname that's supposedly only known by the Knight Corps!"

"I heard it from my Knight friends over there."

Following Basra-san's line of sight, I saw 3 young Priest Knights protecting a carriage. Riding in that carriage was Jordo-san as well as a couple other healers that were ordered to follow me to Ienith as the initial members.

That's right, they are my subordinates in name. We had 2 Knights riding on horses, with 1 acting as coachman for the carriage and Bazzan-san as coachman for another, bringing it to a total of 2 carriages and 3 cavalry.

Evidently, before I knew it they seemed to have become friends.

"... I forgot to prohibit him from saying it."

"Well it's better than being hated right?"

"I wonder ..."

As the 3 of them who made me sulky laughed, we spotted the outer walls of the large town.

"I'm home, Meratoni."

Although there was still quite a distance, I quietly muttered to myself.

When we approached the gate something felt off. It was inevitable that I felt that something was weird.

That's because was there a festival? There was an immense crowd that made me think that it was an illusion. The gate looked like it was going to overflow with people.

"What's going on?"

"Amazing right. This many people gathered to witness the triumphant return of the Deviant Saint healer-sama nurtured by Meratoni's Adventurer's Guild."

"I think it's fine for you to feel proud. Well there's Whirlwind-sama around if you let it get to your head."

"It's because I contacted them with this Magic Transmission Bead telling them that we would arrive soon."

What came to mind was the return of a superstar to his

hometown. Is this how it feels like for them? I ended up thinking of it like it was somebody else's business, as we arrived at the town of Meratoni.

"Welcome home. Luciel-sama, may I have your card?"

The person who called out to me was the same person that was in charge of security when I first visited this town 4 years ago. I dismounted from Fornoir and handed over my card.

"Thank you for your hard work. Here's my card."

He politely received it with 2 hands, verified the card before returning it to me.

"I have verified your identity. Welcome back, Deviant Saint-sama."

Said the guard before somebody cut in.

"Ou. Disciple. I hope that you have not been slacking off in your training?"

"Of course. I could already imagine my future of getting beaten up by Broad-shisho so if I slacked off then wouldn't I die?"

"Kukuku. If that's the case then let's go to the Adventurer's Guild training ground now ..."

"Okay. Stop. Welcome back Luciel-kun. Going to the Healer's Guild and leading the people in the carriage behind you to the inn comes first."

"Che."

I was helped by Garba-san and narrowly escaped from being dragged to battle.

"Oi, disciple. Today we organized a welcome party for you all but I expect you to have a Deviant Saint Whimsical Day even in this city after today."

"Hahaha. Do I look like I would succumb to that intimidation?"

"Hmm? And what are you going to do about it?"

"I will thankfully take you up to your offer."

"Very good. Then go on over to the Healer's Guild before coming over."

"Understood."

Thus my subordinates from the church and I headed to the Healer's Guild but lots of people called out to me. I endured but I could see that my subordinates behind me were at their limit

maintaining a stiff smile.

"It's been a long time since I've been here. Let's go everyone."

To them this must be an oasis. I opened the door to the Healer's Guild.

I doubted my eyes. For some reason the supposedly quiet governmental office-like guild had a flashy banner welcoming us. I was even more shocked than when we arrived at the town.

'Healer's Guild | S-rank healer nurtured in Meratoni branch |
Welcome back, Luciel-sama'

I stiffened when I saw that, and this time it was accompanied by applause. I didn't want to enter the Healer's Guild but I had to enter ... it was such an atmosphere.

I wearily forced myself to put on a poker face and entered.

"Luciel-kun. No, Luciel-sama, welcome back."

The person who greeted me was Krull-san.

" ... Ah, thank you. Somehow the atmosphere of the Healer's Guild has changed."

"Fufufu. Thanks to Luciel-sama, at the age of 30 I became the guildmaster for this branch. It's the record for youngest female. I never would have guessed that you really succeeded in raising my salary, I'm so happy that I could just kiss you."

Sorry. I will only draw away from you if you suddenly greet me with such high tension.

"... Ha ... haha. I'll appreciate the thought. Please help me with the procedure for us first."

"So heartless. Is that the secret to getting promoted to S-rank?"

Thus before settling the procedures my mental spirit was already shaved thin.

On the other hand, in the town of Meratoni celebrating the arrival of Luciel and his entourage, the head of the town's largest healer clinic, Botacyl, was losing his temper in his private room.

"Why~. Why did they start with this town, and furthermore my healer clinic, to learn about the current situation on-site. Is it because he holds a grudge against me? That's definitely the reason. Immediately after that the Healer's Guild guildmaster was replaced. I paid him gold as well, that man must have taken that boy's money and ran away. Oi, what should I do? Think."

He rebuked the slaves and mercenary bodyguards in front of him.

Botacyl was restless.

Originally, transferring Luciel off to the headquarters should have required him to work there for more than 5 years.

Furthermore, there would basically be no reason for them to transfer him back to the place that he caused problems in.

And yet Luciel returned in just 2 years.

That's abnormal.

Most likely he came to frame me after becoming a S-rank.

Ignoring his blood pressure that was rising at a tremendous rate, he desperately thought of ways to withstand that hypocritical Luciel kid.

Including the mercenaries present, all the mercenaries didn't know anything about Luciel but as one would expect they didn't consider killing a S-rank healer. Mercenaries are human too and it was easy to imagine how their own lives would turn out if they killed a healer that was so well-liked by that many people.

And then, the slaves who saw the cornered Botacyl began attempting a certain plan.

Chapter 50: Distant Heights And Welcome Party

The Deviant Saint's Whimsical Day was being held in the Adventurer's Guild training ground.

Pale light radiated out with me in the center, completely healing fractured or broken bone in an instant. When they witnessed this scene, not only the adventurers, even the healers and Priest Knights who tagged along were tongue tied in astonishment at the magic's efficacy.

"Is it me or has it become even more amazing than before?"

"Well I have been through various situations. Are these the last for today?"

"Yeah. Wait a moment. Hey newbies, this is the healer that worked in this Adventurer's Guild 2 years ago. The only guys who don't know about him are the ones who were not here 2 years ago. I'll demonstrate to you all how your seniors became stronger so stay and look for a while."

"Eh? You mean we're doing it now? What about Grulga-san's cooking?"

"Well of course we'll end it when it is time to eat. I've told him that we would be late so don't worry. The main character is always late anyway."

" ... Shisho won't be convinced otherwise right."

"Of course. Very well, we'll start with 「Taijutsu」. Come at me."

"Here I come."

I instantly accelerated by circulating the magical power within my body at high speed, set up an 「Attack Barrier」 and performed a tackle.

A 『Don』 sound rang out.

"Not bad for a tackle. But, if you can't beat the opponent down with it then it leaves you open to attacks."

An intense pain ran through my back. It felt like he slammed down with his right fist.

"Owowow, 「Heal」"

I endured the pain and healed myself. This time I went to grab Shisho's legs, and with a push, even Shisho's body was sent floating. I quickly wound my right arm through his groin and around his waist, and grabbed his right shoulder with my left arm, completing the form for a body slam.

When I was in mid throw, I felt something wound around my

neck and the next instant, I crashed head first into the ground.

I instantaneously performed no-chant 「Heal」 in my head. The next moment, while I had my head facing downwards, I saw Shisho's shadow on the ground and had a bad feeling, knowing that it would be a kick towards my belly. I immediately tensed my abdominal muscles, before something heavy blew me away and I bounced on the ground a few times before stopping.

"Ouchhhh. Why did you drop me on my head. I could have died."

Wasn't that totally a variation of DDT? (TL: DDT is a Japanese Pro-wrestling move as well as a promotion)

"Bullshit. But it looks like your body has strengthened reasonably. Looks like this will be interesting."

"Oh my god he has entered battle maniac mode."

"I'll be attacking first."

"Ossu." (TL: Doesn't really translate well into English. Pretty much a sound made to signal your intent and pump yourself up.)

The instant Broad-shisho disappeared, I had already jumped directly upwards. But the impression of Shisho disappearing should just be because he moved at ultra-speed, and not because he really disappeared.

I observed below me believing that was the case and I saw him for a split second! But it was all in vain as he grabbed my leg and slammed me into the ground, immediately followed by his foot stamping down towards me.

His foot accelerated in mid air, urgh, are the Adventurer's Guild instructors monsters? I erased the pain from being slammed against the ground with a Heal and frantically rolled to a side.

"Hou. So your reaction time to attacks that you've received as usual is different from attacks that you've never seen before. This shows the result of your training."

... How did Shisho's motivation switch get switched on? Please tell me how to make sure it doesn't get switched on. As I thought about that, I felt that Broad-shisho was still holding back so I tried asking.

"I've levelled up and my status have increased but why is it that I still can't catch up to Instructor Broad? As a reference, what's Broad-shisho's level? Of course it's not related to combat but as a target to surpass Broad-shisho."

"Ha, foolish disciple, are you getting caught up in level and status?"

"Of course not. However, I'm just asking so that it would be easier to set a goal, to reach around the same level as Shisho to be able to see through your attacks."

"A goal huh ... Very well it's 451."

" ... Amazing. It will feel great to overcome such a high mountain."

"Kukuku. Well then talking ends here. Surpass your own limits and come at me."

"Understood."

I was thrown around by Broad-shisho, I applied 「Heal」 and had 「Attack Barrier」 permanently on as I continually challenged the mountain named Broad. After about an hour, Taijutsu training ended and soon after swords were drawn and I was thrown into sword training.

The audience became noisy when I got cut but I knew that I would die if I took my attention off by even a split second so I further increased my concentration. Eventually I was slashed quite deeply but I instantly healed using 「High Heal」 so I survived without any problems.

"Well your cut is fine now so let's go to the welcome party."

"Okay."

On this day, among the adventurers who saw the training

between Luciel and Broad, the concept of a healer held by them was completely blown out the window. And they found out that even healers could become stronger if they went through such a bloody training.

In addition, among the adventurers who knew Luciel, there was a man of the same age as Luciel deep in thought after witnessing that training exercise.

"For a healer to stand out even more than me! I am the chosen one. No matter how good he is at healing, it doesn't mean that he can't be defeated in battle."

Luciel didn't know that there was such a guy swelling with fighting spirit.

The welcome party was held in the Adventurer's Guild dining hall. To allow even a bit more participants, the chairs were taken out and it became a buffet style party. I felt that my subordinates were slightly annoyed by this but I attended the party without complaints.

"Hey you bastards, Luciel have returned to Meratoni. With him here you can get your injuries treated quickly on-site. However, Luciel is here to study the healer's clinic. He will be working in Botacyl's healer clinic in the day."

The cheers turned into booing. I was slightly shocked that this world had the concept of booing.

"Although he is not a resident of the Adventurer's Guild, Luciel has decided to sleep in the Adventurer's Guild so when you are really in danger don't be reserved and come over."

It returned to cheers again.

"Well Luciel, there's no alcohol for you but say a few words after the toast."

"Hi I'm Luciel. Thank you very much for organizing this party for us who came from the Healer's Guild church headquarters. Thinking back, the 2 years of trivial and mediocre training I had here formed the foundation that propelled me up towards a S-rank healer. In the beginning I knocked on the doors of the Adventurer's Guild because I didn't want to die, but I was really fearful of all of you adventurers initially, living in fear of dying if I get tangled up with any of you. Every time I applied healing magic, I was afraid of what would happen if I failed so I continued learning so that I wouldn't fail. From my actions that stem from my fear of dying, I found out that you adventurers shared the same feelings of not wanting to die. As I received clothes and small accessories, I realised that there were many kind people around and gradually recovered from that feeling of fear. Well I did think once or twice that it was a ploy to keep me in house arrest, but without a doubt I feel that this is the place of my origin. I am truly grateful to all the Adventurer's Guild staff and adventurers who welcome me back. I will strive to return the favour so please support the Healer's Guild church headquarter members who came along with me in the same way you all support me. Although it was simple, I will end my greetings here. Thank you very much for today."

"So serious! ... Well it's fine, hold up your mugs, kanpai~!!" (TL: Kanpai = Toast)

『Kan~Pai!!』

After I finished toasting, Grulga-san sunk to the level of searching for individuals to drink that (it looks slightly diluted?) among the Priest Knights, Healers and newbie adventurers who saw my battle, while claiming "He became strong by drinking this".

Only a single Priest Knight finished drinking it and fell unconscious. Unbeknownst to that person, Grulga-san's eyes shone with light like he had found a new prey.

I was delighted that my subordinates that were initially discontent about the buffet looked satisfied when they tried the exquisite cooking from Grulga-san.

On the other hand, even here my mental spirit was being shaved thin as the adventurers and guild staffs had various inflated delusions about how I got my Deviant Saint nickname.

"The reason for it must be because he is a weirdo that uses Holy attribute magic."

"Nope, I think that it's because he is a pervert that uses Holy attribute magic."

"Eh? I heard that it's because even though he splendidly conducts

himself like a saint, he has a weird fetish."

"Really? I think ..."

After that, they began guessing about the nicknames apart from my Deviant Saint nickname. The nicknames were spread throughout the party, even Broad-shisho's Whirlwind and Devil Instructor nicknames, Grulga-san's Cooking Bear nickname, and Garba-san's Hermit nickname were brought up and the party got excited as the banquet lasted late into the night.

Chapter 51: Reunion With Meratoni's Largest Healer Clinic Director, Botacyl

The familiar nap room was clean as usual.

The layout was exactly the same as when I was using it in the past, and it filled my heart with joy thinking that they maintained the place for me.

"I should quickly go to bed. Tomorrow's my first day after all."

I took out my Angel's Pillow and went to bed.

"Nevertheless, I never would have guessed that the 3 receptionists would all get married within just 2 years. And the new receptionist was fearful of me ... oh well let's sleep."

I recalled what happened today in that short amount of time before I fell asleep after shutting my eyes.

I was no longer drinking Object X so I invited Broad-shisho, and the Grulga-san Garba-san brothers for a drink.

"We're going to have training tomorrow morning though. We can have a drink together just before you depart for your journey."

"That's right. You'll be entering the enemy's territory tomorrow so you shouldn't neglect your preparations."

"Well instead of drinking, try out my new dish."

I was still puzzled why they didn't want to drink together with me when the new dish was brought up to my mouth, and the taste was terrible.

"Don't tell me this is ... ?"

"Yeah. I wanted to try using that as a cooking spice, but I figured that only Luciel who could drink that can stomach this."

"Why did you make me eat a dish with Object X mixed in without hesitation when I had already stopped drinking it!"

"Small sacrifices are unavoidable in cooking."

" ... So is that a win?"

"It doesn't matter idiotic disciple, hurry up and eat it! The smell is gradually getting worst."

"Hang in there Luciel-kun."

"Ha~. If you force me to that extent, I'll show you that I can eat it."

I bolted down the dish that replaced my favourite barbeque sauce with Object X.

"So, do you think others would be able to eat that?"

" ... Impossible. Unexpectedly, the warmth violently amplified Object X's smelly odour and acidity."

"If that's the case, try this one then."

" ... How many more are there?"

"I have 9 dishes."

" ... If Grulga-san gives me the recipe for the dishes that I like then I will try these out."

"Hoh. If that's the case then I'll teach you 1 recipe for each dish you taste. I still have plenty more that I didn't make so I'm going to enjoy this."

Grulga-san?

"Somehow you are showing the same eyes as Shisho?"

"Grulga's inquisitive spirit has always been strong since a long time ago. I think that since Luciel-kun would be eating his cooking,

he will steadily invent more dishes as he feels glad that they won't go to waste."

Garba-san told me about his brother's nature without hesitation, but he didn't offer to stop his reckless behaviour, only watching on as it was interesting to him.

"Broad-san, Grulga-san, Garba-san, Luciel-kun, we'll be going off now."

I turned around and saw Bazzan-san with Nanaera-san, Skyros-san with Melneru-san, and Basra-san with Mirina-san, with their arms entwined with one another.

"Eh? You guys were in such relationships?"

"Yeah. This is also thanks to Luciel."

"Even I enjoy spending my time in this town."

"Because Luciel's speech stirred up the town."

"I thought you were scary when I first met you but I found out that you are a nice person after talking to you."

"I wasn't in the mood for it but after giving it some thought I fell in love."

"I fell in love with his honesty."

"There you have it. Even though Luciel you told us not to attach -sama to your name, we still feel indebted to you."

"I see. But as A-ranks, please don't attach -sama to my name. I'll be troubled because people will start imagining weird things about me."

"Hahaha. You can't catch a break huh."

"Well, we, Whirlwind-sama, Immovable-sama and Hermit-sama will take care of this town and guild."

I saw them off while thinking, would the rabbit be fine in a relationship with a wolf?

"Time passes equally among everybody. I don't know if I surprised everyone but everyone definitely gave me plenty of surprises."

"That's right. But there are some who don't change as well. For example, Botacyl."

"I don't think that your life is being targeted, but be careful of those slaves."

"The slaves?"

"Yeah. From Garba-san's report, it seems like the slave leader that has been treated unreasonably is flying the flag for rebellion and orchestrating the revolt. And also it looks like there has been a purchase of medication meant for lowering blood pressure."

"For Botacyl? So they purchased it from a herbalist after he couldn't get cured by a healer? I wonder what kind of illness is it?"

"Ah~ He ordered his slaves to purchase it for him but most of the time these people will get betrayed by the slaves they trust. I heard that he collapsed once when he knew that Luciel-kun would be coming here. It looks like they begin buying the medication after that."

High blood pressure? Or did he faint from anxiety? Or maybe it was anemia?

"But I'm just coming over? Moreover it was the Pope who chose my study destination? Although I didn't really object against coming here."

"I've known that guy since a long time ago, he was an excellent healer but one day he became extremely obsessed with gold. For better or for worse, it is a fact that he built the healer clinic up until that size."

"Ohh~ as I thought he was originally an excellent healer."

"Yeah. We've even received his treatment before. But well that's when we were still adventuring."

"... I'm interested to hear more about that though?"

"Hah I don't have a story worthy of Deviant Saint-sama's time. If you don't hurry up and go to bed you won't be able to survive tomorrow's training."

"?! ... You're planning to push me so hard from morning?"

"Yeah, didn't you want to surpass me? If so then as Shisho shouldn't I teach everything I know to my disciple?"

Up till this day I still regret those words said from my mouth by my ego that brought about this disaster.

There's no use crying over spilled milk. The welcome party ended with the final conversation between me and the three leading figures of the Adventurer's Guild.

When I passed by the reception counter on my way to my underground room, I called out to the receptionist but she was shivering in fear and only replied with a bow. I have no idea why the receptionist is so afraid of me.

I finally fell asleep after thinking about all that.

"Fuwaa~. What a nostalgic ceiling."

I was stretching and doing some magical power manipulation after waking up, when the door slowly opened.

"... What are you doing?"

"Che you're awake. Looks like you have not been slacking off in your training. Oh well. First, run around the training ground at full speed and then come at me at full throttle, you can use your body strengthening technique as well."

"Understood."

I was serious about running faster. In my previous life, I wondered how the runners I saw on television spurred themselves on. Why was it that my heart was shaken when I saw them? Although I seriously thought about it, I didn't understand at that time.

Although I don't exactly have a clear answer for it now, I believe ... that it's surely because after struggling hard to surpass your own limits, there is something to look forward to.

Even though it's my own inescapable memories, the fact that the figure of somebody seriously striving for something for a long time appeal to me, meant that I should have something similar to that

desire within me.

"I'll give it my all. I myself determine the limit of how much I swing my arms and how high I lift my legs. There are many cases of ordinary people winning against geniuses. I'll show my resolution."

I was determined to grow stronger as I endured Broad-shisho's gruelling training. And when Grulga-san brought out breakfast, I surpassed my own limits and tried my best to eat more. The taste was of course supremely delicious.

After checking up on Fornoir in the Adventurer's Guild stables, I arrived at Botacyl's healer clinic. The 3 floor building was large compared to the Adventurer's Guild.

"Are healer clinics meant to be so large? Maybe there are inpatients?"

"Healer clinics of this size are mostly unheard of. According to the reports, the 3rd floor is entirely the personal living space for the clinic's director, the 2nd floor is the living space for the slaves and healers, while the first floor is where you go to seek medical attention as well as the room where the mercenary escorts are deployed."

"Is that common for all healer clinics?"

"I can't say that it is like that in general, but even if they don't

have mercenaries, many hire individuals that act similar to a bouncer."

" ... So it is commonplace."

"Although there aren't any who don't pay at all after treatment, in the past there were many cases of people who paid less and it wouldn't be recorded as a crime in their cards. Nowadays that function has been improved but the impact from that time still last till this day."

So there was a time when there were so many ruffians? Eh? So the healer clinics retaliated because of that? If I don't take this into consideration for the guidelines and legislation, it will most likely lead to strong opposition.

"In any case, let's go."

I opened the door to the healer clinic.

"Hang in there, Master Botacyl."

"Oi healers do something. He has not finished his payment."

"Bring the medication over!"

I entered and the inside was exactly like a battlefield. Master Botacyl? In reaction to that cry, I looked over and saw the blue

faced unconscious Botacyl carried on something like a stretcher, transported across the 1st floor.

As expected I would be troubled if he dies so I walked towards the medical care area Botacyl was carried to.

Chapter 52: Luciel's Judgement

A single patient was brought down from the upper floors and the healer clinic's first floor was wrapped in tumult. It was the director of this healer clinic, Botacyl.

The mercenary bodyguards called out to the healers for help but they couldn't heal his sickness with healing magic nor was there any effect from chanting 「Cure」, the detoxification magic.

It was time for my approach. But I was barred from entering the treatment room by the human barricade made by countless people.

"I am the S-rank healer Luciel. I will be in your care from today onward but first let me treat Botacyl-dono."

"That would be troubling. You are the person my master wants to run away from. It will be detrimental to his condition if you approach him."

"Although there is a possibility that Botacyl-dono will die if he is not treated?"

"Yes. We would like to die and be freed of this."

"Oi what are you guys doing, if it's a S-rank healer then he could save the master right?"

"That's right. We have not received our payment so it would be troubling if he died now."

"I'll slice you guys up if you don't hurry up and scatter."

"Yes~ that guy there, firstly put down your sword. And what's wrong with you guys? Why is that if Botacyl-dono dies you all would die as well?"

"Luciel-sama, they might be slaves."

"Slaves? Eh? But they don't have collars?"

"What the hell are you talking about. Now it can be done by just carving magical seals either onto their chest where the heart is located, on their backs or on their necks."

"Hoh~ and what are the effects?"

"It depends on the seal. Complete dominance, physical dominance or simple dominance."

"That's slightly disturbing."

"Yeah. For complete dominance, the slave would be subjected to complete obedience to an order to never betray the master so they would lose all emotions. For physical dominance, the master can give an order to rob the body of free movement, and they would

experience intense pain if they try to move. These 2 can be configured to order the slaves on what to do if the master dies."

"So they can configure it such that their companions or anybody can continue the contract or to release them?"

"Yes. Simple dominance is only accompanied by pain, other than the fact that they can't attack their master and can't commit suicide, they are comparatively free to move about. However, without orders from the master, they would be attacked by severe pain if they separate from the master for more than 1 km. In addition, if the master dies the simple dominance slaves would be released."

"The condition for slavery are going against the law, debt, crime and war slaves?"

"Yes. It is all determined by the slave dealers. Those that went against the law are only made into simple dominance slaves, while the slave contracts for anything else, debt and above, are determined by the parties involved. If the slave dealer makes a decision on his own accord, he would be judged by god so this system was set in place."

Woah so detailed. Why was it explained so fluently?

"So you all would die if Botacyl dies?"

"Yeah. There is no point living a life with no chance of getting

released."

"I see. If I release you from the slave contract then would you agree to not kill Botacyl?"

" ... I will never forgive him, but I wish to live somewhere that's not here."

"And the others?"

I was surprised that they all said that they wouldn't kill him.

"Will you all vow not to?"

Everyone nodded.

"I see. Erm Jordo-san and the Priest Knight Piazza-san, please bring over people who can handle paperwork, including Krull-san. I don't mind if you use my name to do so."

""Yes!""

After seeing the 2 of them off, I spoke to the slave barricade.

"I will not do anything bad so please let me through."

I slowly walked and the barricade cleared. Is this the prestige

from becoming a S-rank? I looked at the still blue-faced Botacyl having a nightmare and spoke.

"Healer Botacyl, in order to help thou, there needs to be a decent compensation. If thou wish to live, agree to give up your wealth and obey the Healer's Guild."

" Uuu I swear."

He swore to the compensation conditions in a low voice.

I casted 「High Heal」, 「Purification」, 「Recover」 and 「Dispel」 in sequence and Botacyl's colour returned to normal.

"Mercenaries and healers present, I hope that you all will bear witness of this treatment."

When I looked at them, for some reason they nodded many times.

It was then that Krull-san and the others came.

"Luciel-kun? What's the meaning of this?"

"Ah, just nice. This morning when I arrived, Botacyl-dono was carried over here and I just applied healing magic so there is no danger to his life. Because of that, I wish to release the slaves present here but as expected it would be troubling to release

criminal slaves so please make them obey the Healer's Guild. I will be taking his wealth as compensation, so please go to Botacyl-dono's private room and clean up his black spots. So, please split up and investigate his private room now."

"... Luciel-kun, you're doing a pretty devilish thing?"

"... It's regrettable. Today, various things happened here that warrants the need to alter the guidelines and legislation currently being worked on. Because of that, I will consider here as an experimental case study."

"It's fine to reduce the problems but don't become a tyrant."

"I absolutely don't have that intention. I was planning to work here normally for a couple of month but the moment I stepped into here this happened, I'm the one that's more vexed."

"I understand. So it's fine if I just go investigate right. But it'll be my first time investigating a healer clinic."

"When I first entered the Healer's Guild I heard that there was an inquiry committee but that department is no longer functioning. To make this a healthy organisation, I believe there will be more of such investigations so, please."

"Don't mention it. Since it's a request from the S-rank healer Luciel-sama."

" ... -kun is enough though."

The mercenaries and healers that bore witness to the vow only looked on. The search and seizure of the private room ended, and it turned out that except for 2 of the slaves, all the other slaves were forcibly dragged into slavery.

"Could all the slaves please gather."

For some reason 「Purification」 couldn't remove the curse, but when I used 「Dispel」 the magical seals disappeared.

Of course I intended to honour my vow. After calling all the slaves over, the number reached close to 20. Excluding 2 of the slaves, I released them from their curses.

"According to your vows, you all will not seek harm onto Botacyl-dono and are free to leave here now. I will hand each of you 10 silver coins to cover for the cost of preparations. Please re-do your life with this. There are people you can rely on at the Adventurer's Guild as well."

"Luciel-kun, something slightly bad cropped up."

Just after I finished passing out the silver coins, Krull-san handed a bundle of parchment to me.

"It is a list of the slave dealers in the Elimasia Empire and their sales destination ... this here."

"Yeah. So many people were sent as slaves by the healers of this town."

" ... "

I continued flipping through the hundred over parchments as I walked towards Botacyl.

In the treatment room Botacyl was already awake.

"To think that you would save my life after you became a S-rank healer."

"The reason I healed was because it's a life, not because it's you. Rather than that, there's something I would like to ask."

"I have no choice but to listen to the words from S-rank healer-sama right?"

"Why did you begin selling individuals forced into slavery to the slave dealers in the Empire. And they were sold at dirt cheap prices. Why did you walk down such a road when you were an excellent healer?"

" ... I've already forgotten about such reasons."

" ... You've vowed. I order you under the name of the Healer's

Guild church headquarters, why?"

" ... For my daughter. I thought that healers could heal anything. But only diseases were an exception. After the death of my wife I only had my daughter left. So it was a deal with the Empire to save my daughter's life."

"So that's why you began making slaves. If so then where's your daughter now."

"I've not seen her for over 10 years. I heard that she has become a slave and is living in the Empire. That's why I need slaves to exchange for my daughter."

" ... For over 10 years, you've sent this number of people."

" ... "

"I sympathize with your daughter, and I understand the feelings you have as a parent, but why did you entrust her to the Empire? It would have been fine if you talked it over with the church headquarters and requested the help of the Herbalist Guild."

" ... I would have done so if they could make an elixir. But I had given up on the Herbalist Guild. There was no way they could make something like that. However I heard that the nearby Empire had developed that so I flew over. What's wrong with that. "

"Botacyl ... Just like how you have family, the slaves you made

had family too. Think about that."

" ... "

"I order you as the Healer's Guild church headquarters. I forbid you from taking your own life. In addition, all your assets will be confist ... no they will all be sold according to their asset value. And it will be handled by this healer clinic's church and the orphanage."

" The orphanage ... "

"That's right. Atone for the rest of your life. In place of the individuals you made into slaves, vow to guide many children, provide treatment for anything at one silver coin, and to treat the orphans from the orphanage for free. For your daughter's sake as well."

Botacyl didn't pledge in front of me.

At a later date, the healer clinics under Botacyl were placed under audit and the healer clinics in the town of Meratoni were caught in an early wave of reform. The healer clinic charges were roughly set and the prices were written in an easy to understand fashion, and were pasted on the Adventurer's Guild and Healer's Guild.

The released slaves either worked in the newly set up orphanage or became adventurers. Through the audit, I learned about various aspects regarding the healer clinics except for customer service.

Without noticing, the day that I set off on a journey approached moment-by-moment.

Chapter 53: The Weight Of Words, New Target

"It's quick isn't it. In the blink of an eye, after you return to the headquarters you will set off to rebuild Ienith's Healer Guild?"

"That's right. I'll work hard to reproduce the recipes I received from you, Grulga-san."

"You can always seek refuge here if needed. I'll help as long as your hands are not stained with evil. Well, I think that you wouldn't do something like that anyway."

"Of course. Although I don't want to die, I won't do anything that would make Shisho and you all lose face."

"Keh, you got released halfway through my training yet again."

"Broad-shisho, please properly show your feelings."

"Well, I understand Broad's feelings. Even though there's no way you can rapidly advance, the more we hit you the more you will gradually grow. I believe with 10 years of training you could even reach close to my level."

" ... Even if I try my best, 10 years is impossible. To feel no presence even when he is in front of me, for him to circle around my back in an instant, crushing the blade of all my swords with his

slashes and dissecting me with his sword, it is clearly beyond the realm of human."

"I think that Luciel's healing magic is sufficiently beyond the realm of human too."

"I finally reach level X for my Holy attribute magic the other day, but I still have a long way to go. For Botacyl's case, I can't say that I handled it perfectly, I felt sick in my stomach and regret, that I could have done more. Magic can treat external wounds but it can't treat wounds to the heart and diseases."

"But Luciel-kun, I heard that in the end Botacyl converted the healer clinic into an orphanage and that arrogant personality vanished like it was a lie."

"Yes. But that was not achieved using my strength. In the end, the archbishop-sama melted his heart by continuing to sincerely persuade him. This time, I was forced to reflect on my mistaken view on my authority."

"That's to be expected. Our generation who are more than double your age can only see the words said by a kid like you who had not lived for more than 20 years as childish words. If you really persuaded him, you wouldn't need to consult us and properly take notes to improve on your persuasiveness. That is why only the upper management have that ability."

"I guess you're right. Youngsters are prone to failing, but not all of them are so innocent as to mistakenly believe that everything

will proceed smoothly. Luciel-kun has also grown slightly thanks to this experience."

"The significance of those words differs depending on the way the person wants to live his life. That is why, there is no need to stiffen your shoulders, but just don't do anything that would make you ashamed of when meeting God. And go try your best to live and struggle and grow. It is fine if you reach a standstill as well. You can rely on us when that time comes. It is impossible for humans to be perfect in everything. Different people think differently as well. You can't advance when you are lost on your own. The final deciding factor is if you can embark on what was discussed. If you feel your nature turn rotten even just a bit, I will beat it out of you. That's why don't feel that you are alone."

Ah~ah, this person, these people are great.

"That's that. Then, please try your best to taste my new work, Object X Doria." (TL: Doria = Roasted pilaf)

"Ugh such an amazing stench, wait why is everyone going so far away?"

"Luciel-kun hurry up and eat it and cast purification magic."

"Idiot disciple. If you don't quickly eat it I'll cut you on purpose later during training."

"It's definitely going to taste bad but I'll do my best. In exchange,

give me that legendary secret sauce recipe."

I knew that no matter how much time passes, the 3 of them would never become my enemies as I ate the Object X Doria.

It had the most disgusting taste out of all of them ...

In the end, Botacyl sold everything that had asset value and requested for the church to compensate the individuals that he had bought as slaves. Subsequently, the healer clinic was left in the custody of the church and Botacyl, left with himself as his only asset, was placed as the director of the orphanage.

In addition, due to his expertise as a healer, he now receives the payment for treatment from patients in accordance with the guidelines for living expenses, for the orphanage operation cost, for alms to the Healer's Guild and for payment to the Healer's Guild for the other slaves.

I also heard that he had widened his range of work and had opened courses for newbies.

I didn't think that I would be mentally exhausted from taking notice and understanding a person's heart. Then there was such an incident.

Once, when I went to the orphanage to meet with Botacyl who built it, he showed me a bright smile and bowed.

For some reason, my tears welled up. Even though it is just the person I hurt from my worthless and shallow actions smiling and bowing to me ...

He has walked onto the grey path close to darkness.

But I must think deeper into these cases from now and furthermore, to continue thinking about them.

There's surely many more correct answers to them.

I've decided. In addition to not dying within my lifespan, I will also, within my capabilities, live in this world by saving as many people suffering from the same fate as possible.

And so months and days flowed by, the healer guidelines and legislation were adopted by Saint Schull church headquarters, and they were distributed to the Healer's Guild of every country and every branch and transmitted to every healer clinic.

I was now in the Pope's room.

"You've done well until today in your efforts for the church and Healer's Guild."

That mysterious voice of the Pope resounded in the room.

"Yes! I am unworthy of your praise."

As usual, I was on one knee with my head bowed down.

"You spent 3 years in the church headquarters, truly contributing to significant matters by first clearing the labyrinth that I had given up on, and now you've created the guidelines and made the framework for the legislation, as well as instructed for the inspection of healer clinics within the Saint Schull Allied Nations."

Yeah. I didn't have the intention to do so much. That was also the reason why Jordo-san and the others ran away. I have no idea how many times lightning struck them.

"Thank you very much. Until now I still believe that the labyrinth capture was only due to luck. And for the other matters, I wasn't the only person who contributed. Many church personnel and Healer's Guild personnel had the same feelings as me. I still have much to learn before I lead the initiative."

"Umu. Even so. When I was assigned to lead the church I was still my father's daughter as well."

Then, the Pope got off the chair that was hidden from my view and walked over.

The Pope had Blond hair and discerning eyes, there are such people? Her countenance was like a delicate doll made by the gods.

Clad in divine aura, I was mesmerized when I saw her smile ...

not in the sense of getting charmed, but of just admiring beauty.

"Father intentionally placed the headquarters in the center of the continent, in Saint Schull Allied Nations' Saint Schull Holy City. He wished for people's salvation and that even if I get caught in between a war, there will be countries that would come together to form a united front."

Was the person she's been talking about since just now Sir Rainstar? ... How old is the Pope exactly?

"That expression looks like it is wondering how old I am? That's how it feels like to me. I am already 322 years old."

"... In my common sense, one would usually be dead by then?"

"Yes. It is related to the fact that my mother was a high elf."

"Did Rainstar-san have more than 1 wife?"

"No, I am certain that his only wife was Rizaria-sama. She had a gentle character that hated to lose. She always played with me. He was close to my mother as well but she appealed to father to hug her once. And then I was born."

"I remember that it was written in a book that it was difficult to have children between different races, so it must have been a real miracle."

"Well, it's because father and mother were both weird people."

The Pope turned her sight to the outside as if yearning for something.

"Is that the reason why Your Holiness hide your face?"

"Umu. The negative impression of halves has continued to this day since long ago. My ears are not as pointed and not as round so I don't really look like a half-elf, but it is also a strategy to make people think that I have God's blessing as I don't grow old and to see me as sacred."

I had so much that I wanted to Tsukkomi. But I have other things that I want to hear about.

"... So why are you telling me this?"

"I wish to work hard to revive the will and authority of the church and Healer's Guild created by father but I cannot do so if I always have to hide my face."

"I am delighted that you think so highly of me."

"Umu. I do not know what will happen if you stick with the church ... but I will be cheering you on."

" ... ? Yes. I plan to advance while doing whatever is within my capabilities as I travel around the country."

"Engrave it within your heart to contact us without fail via letters or the magic communication bead I passed to you the other day. I order you to journey to Ienith."

"Yes! I shall depart to Ienith and vow to put in my best efforts."

"I will pray for your good luck from the bottom of my heart."

"Yes!"

The next morning, my subordinates and I departed for Ienith. After that, we will run through the healing guidelines and legislation from Saint Schull church headquarters with all the Healer's Guild in the whole world.

As the result, the world will know the S-rank healer, Luciel's name. It has been exactly 5 years since Luciel came to this world.

Book 5: Rebuilding Ienith's Healer's Guild

Chapter 054: Entering Ienith. Still Some Distance Away From The Capital

The Free City-State of Ienith is made up of autonomous city-states free from racial discrimination. Every 2 years, the races elect a representative and there will be another campaign to select the representative from that pool of individuals to run the country democratically.

This time, when I set off towards Ienith, I was granted Fornoir by the Pope. Yanbus-san had the intention to do so as well, and he handed him over with a smile while asking me to take good care of him.

That was 9 days ago. Currently, we were visiting various villages, securing beds to sleep on by applying healing magic. The course was southwards and we would pass Ienith's international border by tomorrow ... that's the situation.

“With this, everyone's treatment is done.”

I said to the village elder and a few other self-proclaimed elderly, and I was allowed to return to my accommodation.

“Is it really alright for us to only provide bedding?”

There's no need to show such a concerned expression ... I thought as I decided and spoke out.

“Lately, I have taken to cooking. I still can’t make delicious food, but I’m making them every day.”

“Is that so? If there’s anything you need, just let us know and we will prepare it for you.”

After that conversation ended, I walked towards the place allocated to us for accommodation.

“Luciel-sama, this is amazingly convenient. Even I can operate it.”

The Priest Knight Piazza-san excitedly showed me a magic tool. That’s right, it’s the magic tool of the reincarnated individual? named Ryina. What he was holding on to was her new invention Sparkling-kun.

Placing Sparkling-kun into a pot makes hot water and washes the vegetables. She created it for me because I heard in my previous life that, not only limited to the pre-cooking preparation of leafy vegetables, washing anything before cooking makes it more delicious.

“Because washing them one-by-one is troublesome right. It even boils the water to finish up right?”

“Yeah. This is amazing too. Because it keeps warm at a certain temperature using constant heating power. I definitely want to buy this when I go back to the Holy City.”

I expected so.

“Well, we won’t be returning for the time being but if I have the chance I’ll teach you about the magic tool shop. Well then the food might not taste delicious but I will be making dinner, so can everyone else prepare the bedding?”

『Yes!』

The 8 subordinates moved about. By the way, on the journey up until now we had not been attacked by monsters, let alone bandits. The reason why was because the Adventurer’s Guild set off in advance and crushed them all.

As a celebration of the departure of the S-rank healer, the Adventurer’s Guild guildmaster Granz-san ordered adventurers to go on ahead up until the country’s border.

“They are even coming to welcome us in Ienith, I’m truly thankful but it’s really troubling ... how should I return the favour.”

I cooked while pondering about that.

Today’s dish was pot-au-feu with fluffy bread made by using the liquid from the fermentation of squeezed grapes in a pre-purified bottle. I learnt this cooking method from Grulga-san.

While eating, everyone had fundamental magic training together. Giving each other effective advice on what kind of image to use for the respective magic, we trained on magical power manipulation after we finished our meal.

As expected, everyone was excellent since they were assigned to the church headquarters. There were plenty of them who gave easier to understand explanations and images than me. Every member shared their methods and proactively absorbed the good points.

Just by doing that, my 「Leadership」 skill was going up but I didn't realise it for several days.

“We'll be entering Ienith tomorrow, but how does Luciel-sama plan to rebuild the Healer's Guild?”

The person who asked that was Jordo-san.

“Truthfully, I have not thought of anything yet. I have no idea why the Healer's Guild disappeared and it would be bad to make a decision from hearsay. This time, we were dispatched due to their request, but please by no means act conceited. I think that there would definitely be problems due to the various races. If there are any problems, even if they are small matters, please inform me. We should be able to solve the problems if we share such reports. I might have to discuss with you all as well so please assist me.”

Magical power manipulation training ended shortly after.

The next day, we left the village that aided us and travelled towards Ienith. As the number of trees gradually decreased and grasslands changed into wilderness, we came across a valley between two mountains.

“That is the border. We will rendezvous with the welcome party from Ienith after we cross that valley.”

“Thank you. It’s only a bit more so hang in there guys.”

After casting 「Area High Heal」 and 「Area Barrier」 on my subordinates and the purification magic that Fornoir loves every once in a while, we’ve finally arrived at the border.

Diving through the gate between the mountains? or more precisely cliffs, I felt that the ambient temperature suddenly rose. But maybe due to the effect of my equipment, I wasn’t really bothered by it.

“Healer oniichan~”

A single young girl ran over from the group that should be our welcome party from Ienith. Oh? That girl is ... Shi-chan ... ah, Sheila-chan.

“That’s definitely the welcome party from Ienith. I see some acquaintances so everyone please stand-down.”

Just after I dismounted from Fornoir, she leaped over so I had to

catch her. ... But the momentum was so strong that I was almost blown off my feet. I somehow endured it but the shock made me unconsciously cast 「Area Heal」 with 「Chant Termination」. The acceleration speed of a beastman is really abnormal.

“Sheila-chan right. I see that you’ve recovered your voice.”

“Yup. I became able to speak the day I bid farewell to healer oniichan.”

“I see. Maybe the Gods rewarded Shiela-chan for the hard work you did on that day.”

When I parted with her I chanted 「Extra Heal」 but my proficiency was slightly insufficient. The one who healed her might have really been God.

“Ehehe.”

While thinking about Shiela-chan who had a wide grin on her face, I led Fornoir and walked together with Shiela-chan towards the group that came from Ienith to welcome us.

“Deviant Saint-sama, as well as everyone from the church, I am very grateful that you all came to Ienith. I am Shaza, a tiger beastman and the representative this time around.”

“Thank you for welcoming us. I am the S-rank healer Luciel. Including me, the 9 of us will be the first to take up our new post in

Ienith.”

“Ooo. We’re grateful. Although we are called the Free City-State of Ienith, in the capital there are only Herbalist Guilds everywhere and no healers around. We are thankful that you are willing to do something about it.”

“I intend to achieve that, but I wish to slowly understand the situation in Ienith by observing the site and asking around.”

“Thank you. There is still a 3-day distance from here to the capital, so we would have to trouble you all to continue travelling for a bit more. We’ll be in your care.”

... There’s still such a long distance? Ha~ Even though I had such feelings, it didn’t show through my poker face as I held out my hand in response to Shaza-san.

“We’ll be in your care too.”

During my handshake with Shaza-san, I had a feeling ... that he is considerably strong. Is martial prowess required to be a representative?

We entered the country of Ienith and set off towards the capital of Ienith.

Chapter 055: Rocky Road Ahead To Rebuilding The Healer's Guild

During our journey towards the Free City-States of Ienith, we were caught in multiple battles with monsters, but the Ienith beastmen troop including the leader Shaza-san defeated the monsters in a blink of the eye.

I only had to spread out a barrier and heal the wounded soldiers. I was thinking that my level would not be able to go up if I only did that, but it went up.

I asked Jordo-san and was told that I can level up by providing support such as using a barrier. If that's the case, then power levelling can be done?

As I thought about that, exactly 3 days after entering the territory of the Free City-States of Ienith, we arrived at the capital Ienith.

Shiela-chan often came over to talk with me during breaks, but I mostly conversed with Shaza-san when we were moving so I didn't have much chance to interact with Sheila-chan.

In my conversations with Shaza-san, he also included some of his requests for the Healer's Guild.

- He wishes for the healing price to be reduced according to the cost of living.

– To heal in accordance with the law with regards to different races.

– It's not definite but as a preface, he would like to have us participate in battles with monsters to provide healing.

“Also, it is inexcusable but we leave it to the Saint Schull Church to establish the healer clinic.”

Those were the words he said to me when I first laid eyes on the capital of Ienith. For the points above, I did not give a reply immediately but instead discussed with my subordinates. Therefore, I returned with a smile.

“Is that so. I am sorry if I was misunderstood, but we are not a charitable organization. Besides, we can consider that after things have calmed down. We must first return the Healer's Guild to an operational state.”

I only said that much before cutting off.

Somehow, I did not have a bad premonition. Because not only was Shiela-chan the weakness of Shaza-san, there was also not any need to raise my voice any more than necessary for the surrounding people that I had already met during that event 2 years ago.

Holding on to my suspicions, we had finally arrived at the capital Ienith.

This is ... my subordinates and I were at a loss for words. The reason was the Healer's Guild.

"... Is this the slums?"

"Yeah. But the truth is that the Healer's Guild was originally here. We wanted to relocate to somewhere else but there wasn't any land available."

Although he said that he is sorry, Shaza-san ... or I'll just call him Shaza from now. This guy's eyes were laughing as he averted his face.

"Okay. I understand. Well then, for the sake of rebuilding the Healer's Guild, the treatment prices will remain the same. In cases whereby the patient doesn't have enough, they will pay with their body."

"Do you plan to make them into slaves?"

His eyes flashed belligerently but compared to Shisho this cat still have a long way to go. I told myself so before speaking out.

"No, we will have them offset the price of treatment by doing work for us like carpentry work. We will have them pledge to the church. Unlike vowing to God, we can bind them to their pledge by having them do so."

“How is that different from slavery?”

Even his tone was aggressive?

“I will swear to God. That I will not forcibly command them using their pledge. If the Gods judge that I am unjust, they will likely punish me. I may either lose my ability to use magic or even lose my life. Of course, as the representative, I will have Shaza-san pledge as well.”

Shaza began to show an incredibly flustered expression.

“There is no need to be so afraid. At most the pledge will make your physical level drop to level 1, it would not kill you. If it's representative Shaza-san, you'll accept it, right? We will also pour all our efforts into rebuilding the Healer's Guild.”

“Wa ... wait. If you succeed in rebuilding the Healer's Guild to that extent, I will try to somehow search for a location to accommodate it.”

“Don't worry about it. It looks like this city has slave dealers as well, so we can purchase slaves that can act as night watchmen from there, and gradually rebuild the Healer's Guild. I think that if we don't do that, we wouldn't be able to incite a strong desire to establish a healer clinic here.”

I maintained my poker face. To be honest, my speech and conduct do not match, so I was probing my subordinates and

deciding on the direction together step-by-step.

“That’s right, there is a welcome party today. Please restore your energy there at the feast.”

“I’m thankful for that.”

I could finally relax my face slightly.

“However, looking at the current situation, it is still ... the God of Healing would be saddened if it remained this way. Not only are we healers, we came from the church headquarters so we will not silently overlook this problem. We shall conduct our pledge now, so I look forward to working with you.”

The moment I held out my hand, he began sweating profusely.

“That’s an amazing amount of perspiration?”

“Deviant Saint-sama, I’m really sorry but I am not feeling so well. I will create an opportunity to meet you tomorrow so please allow me to return for today.”

“If it’s healing magic I can immediately use them now you know? 「High Heal」, 「Recover」, 「Purification」, 「Dispel」.”

I cast the spells with 「Chant Termination」, but as expected his condition didn’t change.

“Ooo. That’s excellent. But this is a chronic illness so please excuse me.”

He and his entourage said that and left.

Shiela-chan was the daughter of the previous representative, so she must have been told to not to speak up. She frantically waved at me. And then, as one of the representative, she performed a deep bow before chasing after Shaza’s back.

“I have no idea what to say but our road ahead is difficult.”

“Yeah. Well, for the time being let us proceed after I cast purification magic to clean up. Furthermore, I’ve been having a feeling since earlier that we must visit the slave dealers, so after we have mostly cleaned up, we’ll be going to the slave dealers together. Because I think that it is not good to separate our group now.”

『Yes!』

We cleaned up the spider webs from the leaky roof and the floor that looks like it would collapse anytime.

I was wondering if this was a good occasion to modify the Healer’s Guild. When I told that to my subordinates, for some reason their eyes lit up so it looks like it will be done.

After purifying all the rooms, I only had time to decide on the allocation of rooms, because I now had to allocate rooms for the Priest Knights in charge of guarding Fornoir and the horses as well, before we immediately set off to meet the slave dealers.

Once again, I had no idea that Great Luck-sensei would come to greet me again after such a long time.

Chapter 056: Luciel Is A Person Who Looks For Bargains

A group dressed in white robes emerged from the slums.

We were extremely not inconspicuous. My subordinates and I called out to the residents and asked for the location of the slave dealers, and found the place before long.

However, there were 3 slave dealers in Ienith and we were rejected by the 1st shop that deny first-time customers. The 2nd shop, maybe due to the handiwork of Shaza, refused to sell to people involved with the Healer's Guild.

[We've been rejected by 2 of the dealers huh. At any rate, I do feel repulsed at the thought of having slaves, but it is a staple of novels that I will make comrades here.]

I thought optimistically.

We arrived at the 3rd slave dealer, but it was a dingy slave dealership located close to the slums.

“Everyone please standby here. This time I plan to buy slaves that excel in combat and carpentry.”

I told them before entering the slave dealership.

The interior of the shop was not smelly to that extent, but it also did not give the impression of being clean.

“Is this a slave dealership?”

“Yes it is young master. But the minimum you need is 5 gold pieces so is it alright?”

The person who came out was a wolf beastman with a vulgar smile. To be honest, I can't deal with these types well, but if I want to purchase slaves I don't have a choice.

“Yeah, I've brought enough. How much is it for the most expensive slave?”

“Huh? Oh well it doesn't matter. It is an elf that cost 5 white gold coins, would you like to purchase it?”

I was amazed at the audacity of the man who probed at the contents of my wallet without hesitation but I maintained my poker face.

” ... I am only checking the price. Rather than that, if you have an elf, wouldn't it be better to clean up the interior of the shop slightly more?”

“Ha~ What's this? Are you just here to window-shop? I would clean the shop if I get paid for it, but I rather not waste the effort.”

The man's attitude changed as if he was disappointed because he imagined that he wouldn't be getting money from me.

“Is that so? But I feel that customers would prefer to view slaves in a clean environment?”

I said that while flipping a white gold coin between my fingers in front of the man's eyes.

“So you are a young master from a wealthy family after all. Please don't surprise me like that.”

The man's attitude did another 180° flip, showing his beastman expression with his ears perked up and his tail swaying about.

“I wish to see all the slaves you have in the shop. Also, I offer to make your shop clean if you reduce the price slightly.”

The man jumped at my offer, rubbing his hands together as he began guiding me through his shop with an effeminate expression.

The slave dealer showed me the slaves in sequence, beginning with the most expensive elf.

I was mystified as I did not see any employees other than that slave dealer, but my purpose wasn't to meet with the other shop assistants, so I cruised along looking at the slaves under his guide.

The slaves were housed in prisons, male and females were placed in different floors and they were divided into prisons according to their selling price.

I even noticed that there were children missing all four limbs among the slaves. I really wanted to heal each and every one of them, but I knew that doing so would just please the slave dealer so I tightly clenched my fist and endured.

In terms of races, there were humans, dwarves, dragonewts, elves, beastmen ... the range was endless.

However the thing that I was most concerned about was that almost all the slaves had lost the radiance in their eyes.

I observed the slaves. How did this person become a slave? Even though I didn't know about her background, I intuitively felt that I should not purchase the value price elf that the man was promoting.

“Why is it that only despair is reflected in the eyes of the slaves here?”

I was concerned about the eyes that showed no individual will. Even in Botacyl's slaves, I did not feel such darkness and despair at the back of the eyes.

“Of course that's because they are slaves. I'll be troubled if you

falsely accuse me.”

The man declared.

“Is that so. Well then, show me the male slaves this time. Because I’m considering getting multiple individuals from here.”

The instant I said that to the slave dealer, I felt the presence of a few of the slaves change, but I decided to not react to that for now.

“Kukuku. Well then please proceed this way.”

I’ll say it clearly, somehow this man has been acting scary since a while ago.

There weren’t many male slaves.

I observed the male slaves one-by-one as I received explanations for each of them.

I released the intimidation aura, taught to me by Broad-shisho meant for probing a person’s courage, at each of them.

Some of the men were frightened, some returned the intimidation.

I chose 3 of the slaves that didn’t look like they were trouble if I

purchased them.

“This dwarf without arms. This old man with the tendon of both his feet cut. And this dull haired youth. I wish to interview them. Please tell me the price in advance.”

The slave dealer made a disappointed face so I guess they are cheap. I imagined as I tilted my head to him.

“This dwarf was originally excellent, but both his arms ended up like this due to an accident so he will be 5 gold coins. I’ve heard that that old man was quite a considerable warrior as well. But he was betrayed and his feet was cut by a sword coated with poison. Although his life is not in any danger, he can’t stand so he will be 5 gold coins. Lastly, this dirty brat seems to be a war slave but he was transported from another country and pushed onto me. Nevertheless, he is young so I guess he will be 20 gold coins.”

I’ve decided that, especially so for these injured individuals, if I healed them with「Extra Heal」, they can serve as the best reinforcement forces for the Healer’s Guild, so I attached great importance to their motivations.

Since the Pope told me that it was okay to use 「Extra Heal」when I decide that I have no choice but to do so, I was thinking that if I didn’t use it now for reinforcements then when else would I use it, as I looked forward to the interviews.

“I see. Then I’ll proceed with the interviews. Ah if possible I would like to talk with them one-on-one. I plan to purchase female

slaves as well so you can give me some leeway right?”

“Kukuku. If that’s the case then it’s okay, young master.”

Thus I interviewed the 3 of them.

The interview was held in a 6 tatami mat-size room furnished with only a table sandwiched between 2 sofas facing each other.

The first was the dwarf that had lost both arms.

“Please sit down. Firstly, I’ll be asking some questions so please answer truthfully. Before that, I am Luciel, a S-rank healer affiliated to the Healer’s Guild. First question, if I heal dwarf-san’s arms, apart from blacksmithing, can you do carpentry work as well?”

“Un. I am a blacksmith that was bestowed with the blessing of the God of Blacksmith immediately since birth. Woodwork is a required skill for blacksmithing so there is no reason why I would not train in it! Who do you think you are talking to boy.”

Even though he was short, he snorted like he would go berserk if he had arms.

“Is that so. ... Do you have confidence in your arms?”

“Boy ... are you making fun of me?”

I felt that this was proceeding badly so I pushed forward another step.

“I will phrase it differently. If I heal your arms do you swear loyalty to undertake blacksmithing and the remodelling of the guild?”

I looked into his eyes as I said that.

” ... If you really heal me ... and if it is not a bad environment.”

I couldn't get him to say anything else after that.

The next person was the old man?

“I will speak directly. I believe you are considerably strong. I sense the same presence as Shisho.”

I felt the air the old man carried around himself change.

“Is that related to this?”

“Yeah. I heard that the tendons on both your legs were cut with a poisonous sword when you were betrayed but do you have an idea who did it? And do you wish for revenge?”

“Fu~. No matter how much I wish for revenge and struggle, I cannot compete against an entire nation. Rather than that, I’m more interested in a man who trained himself to such a degree despite being a healer.”

Ah, he gives off the same smell as Shisho after all. Is this the smell of the strong? Somehow I feel that that is wrong.

“My Shisho is known as Whirlwind. Rather than that, who exactly are you? No, let us stop this mutual prying. It looks like you can’t stand if I don’t heal your legs and remove the poison that you are suffering from right?”

” ... That’s right.”

The combative atmosphere was deflated.

“If I make it such that you can move once again, do you pledge to protect us?”

” ... What do you intend to make this old man do for you?”

Within the eyes that were losing their strength, I felt a fire burn once again.

“For the time being, protect the Healer’s Guild and horses we have in this city. Other than that I was thinking of having you conduct combat training for me.”

” ... Just that?”

Was that a look of astonishment?

“Yeah. I have other things in mind but that is all for the time being.”

“Pu, wahahaha. Interesting. If it is true that my lord can heal my injury, I will swear loyalty and call you my lord.”

“Well then please look forward to it.”

Thus the man that looked like an old man instantly regained the vitality in his eyes and I could no longer read his age. I had a feeling that Great Luck-sensei made me get rejected by the other slave dealers so that I would encounter this man.

And lastly, I interviewed the youth that was roughly the same age as me.

“How did you become a slave?”

“I am the son of an aristocrat that lost our territory because we were defeated in the battle with the Empire.”

There was an intense light within his eyes. Perhaps he drifted from the Rubruk Kingdom?

“I see. So what do you wish to do? I believe you are holding on to the feelings of revenge, but I will not allow you to do so.”

” ... ”

He merely continued staring at me.

“If you come with me and protect the Healer’s Guild, I will treat you well even as a slave. However, I hope that you follow me only if you can live for the sake of protecting the guild, if it is impossible for you then you can search for the road to revenge when someone else purchases you.”

My principle is safety first, so I won’t do the impossible and I won’t invite unnecessary grudges. Hence, I left everything up to him. The youth contemplated with a gloomy face.

” ... How long would the term of slavery last?”

He squeezed out a question.

I had no idea how to answer that question so I fell silent. Even though there needs to be a timeline or approach to rebuilding the guild, I had not had the time to think about it. And I could not lie to his earnest eyes.

We both remained in silence for some time. And then I answered.

“To be honest, I have not given thought so soon to when I would release you. After rebuilding the Healer’s Guild, we intend to create a healer clinic in this city. I have no idea how long that would take, and I don’t even know if I can release you after that.”

I was troubled, but actually apart from debt slaves and illegal slaves, there are no release conditions for slaves. For that reason, normally a war slave like him would never be released.

“No way.”

He clenched his fist tightly and hung his head.

The interview with the 3 male slaves ended.

Chapter 057: Purchasing Slaves And God's Miracle

I cast purification magic on the dull-haired youth.

I prayed that at least some kind-hearted owner would purchase this youth soon.

The youth thanked me before leaving the room.

I stared at the door he left by and muttered.

“It didn’t go as planned.”

I thought about the youth that had just left the room as I shook my head.

“Please do not buy me.”

Within his eyes that were saying so, I felt his will to cling on to the slight possibility. I believed that he would certainly be saddled with Darkness if I bought him so I decided to respect his decision.

“So mortifying. Even though I can’t achieve something to the extent of an Archbishop, to think that I can’t even relieve him of his Darkness ... ”

When I exited the reception room, the slave dealer was waiting while rubbing his hands.

“I will purchase the wisdom of a dwarf and the knowledge of a warrior. Also, I intend to purchase slaves to take care of them so let me see the female slaves once again.”

“Kukuku. Thank you for your patronage, young master.”

The slave dealer and I headed to the female slave floor.

The truth was that I had already asked the dwarf and old man if they had any slaves that they wished for me to purchase, and it looked like they both do, so I intend to buy them. Of course, they wouldn't be the slaves of slaves.

It is up to others how they might see it, but I decided that the slaves that they requested for would become something that will tie them down. Of course, I do not plan to treat them badly. I intend to humanely connect with them and earn their trust.

When we arrived at the female floor, I recalled the exchange I had during the interview and looked for the slaves.

“What is your name, dwarf-san?”

“It's Dolan.”

“Dolan-san, do you have anybody you wish to be purchased along with you?”

” ... Why?”

He was fidgeting nervously when he knew that he would be bought, looking at the female slave floor multiple times, so I think it's normal that I would have guessed.

“If you pledge to use your expertise to rebuilt the Healer's Guild and freely produce weapons for us, I plan to create an environment whereby you can exhibit your fullest potential.”

I gave him a smile.

” ... Boy, you said that you're an S-rank healer right? Do you have gold?”

“I have a decent amount. I earned it in an extremely smelly place in Saint Schull Allied Nations by enduring and enduring and defeating undead ...”

Dolan-san felt uneasy from the sorrowful expression that was shown on my face and he shut his eyes and said in a small voice.

” ... I see.”

“That's why please don't be reserved. Dolan-san, is there anyone

that you wish to be purchased?”

“There is a human and dwarf half-breed girl, but is she still around? She’s my granddaughter. Her name is Paula, she has hazel coloured hair and is a reticent child. She’s only 16 years old but if possible, I would like you to purchase her as well.”

What happened to his previous dignified mannerism? It felt like his pent up feelings burst out but it was out of concern for his family so I was convinced.

“I understand. I will go to the female floor after the interview so I promise that I will buy her if she is there.”

After that, I posed the same question to the old man.

“My name is Lionel. I ask of you to purchase the human and beast race Naria and Ketty if possible. Their ages are 33 and 23.”

“Okay.”

I spotted the 3 individuals whose features I heard from the other 2 and called out to the slave dealer.

“Do you mind if I question the slaves a little?”

“Yeah. No problem.”

I felt that he had totally seen through me but they are a necessary expense so I intend to purchase them even if he pushed for an unreasonable price.

First, I quietly spoke to the hazel-haired girl whose height was only up until my chest height.

“Are you Paula? Give me a nod if you are.”

The girl immediately nodded.

“Firstly, I am Luciel. Dolan-san asked me to buy you as well so I plan to do so. There will be no need to submit your body. I will have Paula-san assist Dolan-san and perform chores for him.”

“Together with grandpa?”

Her facial expression wasn't changing much, but I felt the air soften.

“Yeah. And I will also heal his arms.”

She did the classic head tilt gesture. Is that in fashion now?

“I am not God. And so would you pledge your efforts to rebuild the Healer's Guild just like how Dolan-san did?”

I smiled bitterly as I asked her.

“Okay. If it is the same as grandpa then I’ll pledge to do so.”

I felt that she gave a slight smile.

After that, I said the same to Naria and Ketty.

“Firstly, I am Luciel. Lionel-san asked me to purchase the 2 of you so I plan to do so. There will be no need to submit your body. Do you have any questions?”

“Is Lionel-sama safe?”

“Yeah. He is currently unable to walk but I intend to treat the poison that damaged the nerves and tendon in both his feet.”

“I have sworn allegiance to Lionel-sama nya. I will comply with whatever Lionel-sama says nya.” (TL: The staple cat character is here!)

“As long as I can be beside Lionel-sama, I will do anything.”

... Just who the hell is Lionel-san? Well, it looks like there’re no problems here as well. I will leave these 2 girls to Lionel-san.

“Shopkeeper, I will buy the dwarf and old man earlier together

with these girls. How much would it be for all of them?”

“Just 1 white gold coin would be sufficient.”

” ... Why is the price cheaper compared to when you first told me?”

“Young master, no, master, it is because it looks like fate ties the two of us together hehehe. For you to purchase so many slaves at one go, I believe you have a plan and budget for many more?”

As usual, the slave dealer maintained a self-depreciating smile and hand rubbing gesture as he inquired. It looked like he was skilled at calculating for future profits but the truth was that I had no such plans so I was troubled as to how to respond ...

“Certainly, I have planned the budget for it. I had no intention to purchase the girls but if I can buy the slave’s motivation with gold then it’s all good.”

“Hehehe. As I suspected. Master, it is still a couple of months away, but there will be a slave auction coming up. Here is the referral letter that will allow you to participate in it, please accept it.”

The man’s tension increased.

” ... There’s such a thing? But why did you hand me the referral letter? Do you give it to anybody?”

I had more and more doubts.

“No no usually I would not hand over the invitation to the auction so easily. However, I offer it to individuals who have financial power like master.”

“How does it benefit you?”

I thought that if it was done without any merit to himself then it can only either be abnormal or a trap.

“If you purchase slaves while holding on to my referral letter, I will be paid a whopping 10 percent reward. Even if master successfully bids for a slave and I, in turn, purchase the slave from you, I will not face any losses.”

I didn't really get it, but it didn't felt like he was lying. However, I believe he also didn't tell the whole truth either.

After purchasing the 5 slaves, I called out to and approached my subordinates waiting outside. We carried Dolan-san and Lionel-san and set off towards the Healer's Guild building.

All those who witnessed the convincing spectacle of a miracle of God, and those who actually received the miracle of God, everyone simply dedicated their prayer of thanks.

“No, erm. Why is everybody worshiping me?”

I was flustered. Upon casting 「Extra Heal」 on Dolan-san and Lionel-san, both Dolan-san's arms emerged and the tendon in both Lionel-san's feet was restored.

In addition, I completed his treatment by applying 「Recover」 on Lionel-san. Dolan-san rotated and grasped his arms, verifying their sense of touch, while Lionel-san stood up and walked slightly, recovering his sense of movement.

Witnessing that spectacle, Dolan-san's granddaughter wept and clung on to her grandfather. Similarly for Lionel-san, he was hugged by the slaves that were purchased together with him.

The Priest Knights and Healers that came along from the church had never actually seen「Extra Heal」before. For some time, they knelt on one knee with their hands in front of them, maintaining the pose for dedicating a prayer.

The slaves who saw that ended up mimicking the same pose for dedicating a prayer, I was greatly flustered and asked them to stop but they maintained that pose for some time.

Chapter 058: Who Exactly Is This Person?

After attempting to persuade them countless times, they finally stopped their prayer posture. While thinking that it is amazing in a sense that some people can immerse themselves in the feeling of being almighty, I laughed bitterly at myself who will forever remain as a cowardly person as I addressed everyone.

“Now that you all have settled down, regarding this building’s structure, it has 3 floors above ground and 1 underground floor. The 3rd floor will be the room for the Healer’s Guild guildmaster. The 2nd floor will be used by the people who came along with me from the church headquarters. So, you all will live in the underground floor. Are there any questions?”

I swept my gaze across everyone once but it looked like there weren’t any objections in particular.

“If so then I’ll continue? The underground has 3 rooms so Dolan and Paula will share a room, Cathy and Naria will share a room and I’m sorry but Lionel you will have the smallest room for yourself. Moving on, Fornoir and the horses are housed within the Healer’s Guild for now but leaving it this way will be bad after all. For that reason, I will allow the remodeling of the Healer’s Guild. I believe we can’t extend the building, but as long as you all inform Dolan-san of your requirements, setting aside the judgement of whether it is feasible or not, I will authorize most of the requests because this is meant to be your castle.”

My subordinates all had wide grins across their faces as they were lost in thought in their own fantasy. At that point, I noticed that

Dolan-san had raised his hand and was staring at me with a grin.

“What’s the matter? Dolan-san.”

“Ah, yeah. Regarding the extension that Luciel-sama talked about just now, we can easily extend the underground if we use magic? Well if you intend to extend down into more floors then we would need wood and iron.”

Dolan-san said such a thing.

” ... Ha?”

I couldn’t wrap my mind around it.

“Dwarves like me live by borrowing the energy from the spirits of fire and earth. That’s why we are able to move soil and strengthen fire.”

“Grandpa strengthened the fire too much which caused the workshop to explode.”

Paula added in, causing Dolan to scratch his cheek and face towards the direction of tomorrow.

“So you mean it is possible to extend the underground?”

“Yeah. The worst case scenario would be tampering with the ground poorly resulting in a distorted foundation causing the building to collapse, but dwarves like me can hear the voices of spirits so we are able to excavate deep into the earth and expand horizontally as well.”

Had I somehow obtained a cheat-like dwarf? It can't be helped that my cheeks hardened and twitched due to the shock. (TL: The cheeks on his face okay. What are you thinking about? xD)

” ... I understand. Let us gradually work out the details for that. Next, Cathy, Naria, and Paula, can you all cook?”

Cathy and Paula averted their gazes but Naria looked like she could and she nodded.

“Okay. I will cook because I am interested in cooking but I will ask for your assistance.”

“Certainly, master.”

I was troubled for being addressed like that, but I didn't think of anything else for them to call me. Therefore, I gave it some thought before talking.

“I've been troubled by having -sama attached to my name since my time at the church, so from this occasion on until the Healer's Guild is rebuilt, please call me either master or Luciel-dono.” (TL: the master here is for guildmaster, not the Goshujinsama said just

now by Naria, usually used by slaves towards their masters.)

“Okay (Yes!). Luciel-dono (Master).”

With this the living area and cooking staff have been assigned, so next would be shopping for necessities including clothes ... but as to be expected it would be bad to do so with this number of people again.

“Now, I plan to purchase clothes, bed, and food etc. Lionel, can you use a sword?”

“I can use most types of swords. My specialized weapons are greatswords and long spears.”

Why did this person’s eyes sparkle when we touched upon the topic of weapons? Am I the only one who thinks that it is scary?

“Well then, I will lend you the sword I received from my Shisho so I will have to trouble you with escorting me.”

I asked my subordinates to do something else.

“We will unload everyone’s personal belongings and magic tools before going so please sort them out.”

I felt a reaction from Paula when magic tools were mentioned but I intentionally ignored that.

“I’ll be worried if you only take the recuperating Lionel-sama along with you for protection nya.”

Cathy declared. We would have to get female undergarments as well so I agreed to let her come along.

Maybe because I never decided to resale my weapons, I still had my Holy silver one-handed sword so I equipped her with that.

I noticed Lionel-san staring at the sword I received from Shisho at the corner of my eyes. He returned the sword to its sheath and said to me.

“It looks like you are cherished by your Shisho, Luciel-dono.”

I smiled and nodded.

After that, Naria offered to cut Lionel’s unkempt hair but there wasn’t enough time so we just tied his hair and only shaved his beard. He transformed from an old man into a dignified boss.

The Priest Knights who saw that stopped their hands and stiffened. I guess it was that surprising. I lent used robes to the 2 of them and we left to shop.

By the way, this time, we walked.

I bought large quantities of vegetables and fruits from the shops that sold to us. That's right. Even here there were some shops who did not want to do business with us, so I had no choice but to buy in bulk.

Next, Dolan asked me to purchase iron swords (doesn't matter if they are dull) and iron wares so I bought those in large quantities as well. We did not meet with any interferences at the lumber mill but the price was considerably steep.

Also, regarding the lack of honorifics, Lionel and Dolan strictly cautioned me against using -san when calling them so I complied. Most likely it has something to do with public appearances.

Thus, we had purchased an impressively large quantity of goods that made Cathy's eye widen.

“Thank you very much.”

After the shop assistant from the last shop led us out, I muttered.

“Looks like we are getting obstructed quite significantly.”

The words weren't aimed at the 2 of them but they both halted.

“I knew it was about time nya.”

“Bah ridiculous. Not only is their tailing unsatisfactory, to think

that they attacked us with this number of small fries.”

I don't know why, but I intuitively sensed a battle approach when I saw the 2 of them unsheathe their swords and immediately deployed a 「Area Barrier」 before informing them.

“Apart from monsters, please avoid killing as much as possible.”

The 2 of them nodded silently and stood in front and behind me. From the shadows of the building, more than 10 armed men swooped down on us.

I'll announce the conclusion first. It was a complete victory.

Lionel sheathed his sword while avoiding the attacks, striking them with the sheath or punching them in their belly, causing the assailants to sink to their feet.

“Too easy, seriously too easy.”

That conduct reminded me of a boss character from somewhere, but it's a secret.

On the other hand, Cathy overwhelmed the assailants using a speed that I could somehow manage to follow.

Punching while avoiding slashes from swords, sending them flying with roundhouse kicks to their faces, and striking them with

the flat of her sword. It was a complete victory for this side as well.

“They have only fainted nya. I struck them with the flat of my blade so don’t worry nya.”

She said such a signature phrase, but I completely can’t understand how these people became slaves.

The 2 of them dragged the assailants and gathered them in a single location. They requested for a rope from me so I hurriedly dug some out from my magic bag and passed it to them.

I was immensely curious about who the 2 of them are exactly, more so than the assailants. After gathering the evidence and goods, I wanted to return to the Healer’s Guild but was halted by Lionel.

“Luciel-dono, let us drag these people as they are now to their chief in Ienith. If we bring them to the Healer’s Guild like this, we might be accused of kidnapping them.”

He advised. I decided to follow his advice. Lionel somehow amazingly tied all 13 assailants with a rope and started dragging them.

Just who the heck is he exactly? That question alone spun around in my brain.

I walked beside Lionel as he dragged the assailants while Cathy

followed behind remaining vigilant towards the surroundings.

We aimed for the largest mansion as we received dumbfounded looks from the surroundings.

The shop we did our shopping at was located near to the large building where Shaza and his group most likely was. The distance was roughly about 5 minutes away.

The soldier that was guarding the building stiffened at the sight that rarely occurs.

If it was me I would have been unable to stand due to the surprise, so I pitied him and concentrated on clearly explaining ourselves.

“I am the S-rank healer Luciel. I was absent from the banquet held today but I was attacked in the city. I wish to propose some improvements to the public safety, so is it possible for me to have an audience with Shaza-dono?”

After telling him that, the guard ran inside hastily.

“Since he didn’t even say a word about hoping that we wait for a moment, so I guess it is alright that we enter.”

Ha? I doubted the words that I heard from my side, but just like that, he dragged the assailants and entered.

“As expected of Lionel-sama nya. Master, let’s follow nya.”

Similarly, Cathy entered without hesitation. Waiting all on my one at the gate would be scary after all, so I chased after the 2 of them but it’s inevitable that I felt anxious at that moment.

“Isn’t this trespassing?”

I gingerly asked.

“Ha? There wouldn’t be any problems even if you enter. Speaking of S-rank healers, isn’t Luciel-dono the only 1 in the world?”

“Yeah. It is true that I am the only 1 but what has that got to do with this?”

“Normally if the national guest suffers an attack, it will become an international affair and countries would make their move. We are offering to resolve it without making it into a serious problem. Isn’t that a fine proposal for the opposite party? Hahaha.”

I will say it any number of times. Who the hell are you? Why did such a dependable person become a slave?

Although I still did not know the answer to that question, I chased after his back as he steadily advanced.

Cathy was just being Cathy, maybe she was accustomed to these kinds of situations, she was humming carefreely.

Shaza and his group exited the mansion just as we reached the front of the building. They were shocked stiff because they saw us right when they exited the building. Lionel spoke out.

“My master is the sole S-rank healer in this world, Luciel, but we were attacked in the city by these assailants when we were shopping. As a country how will you consider this and how will you apologize and compensate us for this. I will have you tell us now!”

Shaza stiffened and became as meek as a lamb against the overwhelming air of dominance and the people beside Shaza hid their faces.

Looking at that scene, within my heart I was questioning, is this person the main character-type in stories?

I thought carefreely.

Authors Note:

Thank you very much for reading.

It somehow ended up unfolding into Invincible Lionel instead.

As an author, I look forward to overshadowing the main character's activities. (*^ω^)

As you can see I have tampered around with book 0 to book 4, but the revision has not been completed so please take note.

Chapter 059: Increased Forces And Dolan's Motivation

Nobody dared to speak up under Lionel's intimidating voice.

All of the 7 representatives including Shaza, and 3 soldiers.

“It's fine that you all remain silent, but the ones who will face troubles will be you guys, right? Please tell us how you intend to apologize, to dispose of these ruffians and to compensate us?”

This time, Lionel changed his tone, trimming down on the intimidation and spoke in a placid voice.

Then, Shaza finally began apologizing.

“I, I am truly sorry for this. I couldn't imagine that healer-sama would get attacked on the very day he arrives. Luciel-sama, the country will atone by sentencing these ruffians to death, as for compensation ... I would like to have something to think of one if it is fine with you?”

Shaza was glancing over at me and Lionel also looked over, so I guess he left it up to me to decide.

“Is that so. I was surprised by the attacks so I originally intended to urgently return to my home country to report ...”

I placed my hand on my chin.

I knew that Shaza would get anxious, but seeing that Sheila-chan's father's expression looked like he was going to weep, I found out that this was not the intention of the whole group.

Thus, I made my decision.

“Okay. Firstly, instead of the death penalty for them, I would like to have their rank lowered to slaves as criminal slaves. Next, in addition to having their expenses fully borne by you and having them work as a labour force for the Healer's Guild, I would like you to accurately circulate this matter. Next, there are many shops that refuse to sell to us so please make it such that we can buy from every shop. Needless to say, we will still pay for the items. Finally, for the sake of maintaining public security, please allow us to develop the region around the Healer's Guild. That will be all for my request for this time. I will look forward to the compensations.”

Not only did I not know if they would really be subjected to capital punishment, I could also avoid spreading my forces comprising of my subordinates and Lionel and gang thin if I increase my available force, so this was preferable.

Moreover, if the number of shops we can purchase from increases, not only do I prevent backlash from inhabitants that cannot buy goods from the shops, I might even find good bargains from the shops that I couldn't buy from before.

If we are allowed to develop the surroundings then there would be no problems if we expand the guild.

I chose my demands according to these train of thoughts.

Lionel looked a bit dissatisfied but it's not like we are intending to go to war with Ienith, and we would not get blamed as long as they circulate the matter accurately.

Nobody approached Shaza. I felt that he was angered by my demands but since there were no difficult contents within my requests he had no choice but to acknowledge them.

" ... I apologize for what happened this time. I will accept all the conditions."

Shaza said that without lifting his head. He must have been making a sour face.

"This time, Luciel-sama has shown mercy but do not assume that he will do so the next time as well. Also, I hope that somebody from your group will accompany us to the slave dealer now."

Lionel firmly punctuated on the points that needed punctuation.

Then, Shaza spoke.

" ... By the way, you weren't there when you all arrived at Ienith. Who are you?"

“Me? I am Luciel-sama’s retainer. Kakaka.”

Lionel’s loud laughter resonated throughout the neighbourhood.

The individual who accompanied us to the slave dealer was the nostalgic Guralga-san, the wolf beastman who stabbed my stomach in the Holy City.

When we could no longer see the soldiers that exited the gate of the mansion, he began muttering words of apology quietly like it was to himself while maintaining the posture of moving forward.

“Deviant Saint-sama. Even though you went through such pains to travel here, I am terribly sorry that things became this way.”

Of course, I guessed the circumstances from his appearance so I also talked in a low voice.

“Had the situation changed the past 3 years?”

He began describing as he slowly walked.

The contents were situations that commonly happens.

The representative at that time, Mr. Olga, retired along with the expiration of his term of office 3 months after returning from the Holy City.

The next representative was from the dragon race who had high natural recovery ability so they did not understand the appeal for healers.

It seems like they called for the preferential treatment of Herbalist Guilds that can treat diseases instead of healers.

The following year, the readjustments were carried out. His voice sank deeper as he conveyed that the region where the Healer's Guild was located became the slums.

And then, the term of office ended and the representatives changed. They were inferior to the dragon race, but the tiger beastmen, with high combat power and natural recovery abilities, became representatives for the country with Shaza as their representative.

Up until a year ago there hasn't been any allure for the Healer's Guild, but recently at a distant location from Ienith, an inactive labyrinth reactivated and I heard that there is an overflow of monsters.

For that reason, the Adventurer's Guild and the country's army began suppressing the monsters.

Although the Herbalist potions were of high quality, the recovery doesn't make it in time and if the poison or paralysis effects are just slightly different, a separate drug is needed so they faced difficulties in capturing the labyrinth.

Listening to his explanations ... Don't I still have 40 more years to go? I had an ominous feeling in my mind as we arrived at the slave dealership. (TL: Luciel is referring to his oath with the Holy Dragon to release the seal of trapped dragons.)

“Isn't this the place that refused us entry citing that they don't allow first-time customers when we first came here?”

“It's fine. It is not that they refused you all because they were instructed to do so, they only did so because they do not want to sell their slaves to weird customers.”

Upon knocking on the door, an elderly wolf beastman stuck his face out.

“Old man, long time no see.”

“Oh, it's Guralga ... why are you intruding with such large numbers?”

Needless to say, the shopkeeper remembered us who came here before, after one glance he immediately faced Guralga-san and asked.

“Yeah. This person here is the Deviant Saint-sama who saved our lives when we went to the Holy City. These fellows tied up by a rope are stupid individuals who attacked Deviant Saint-sama, instead of the death penalty, he decided to convert them into

slaves and we wish to trouble you for that.”

“Ho ... Deviant Saint-sama huh, how do you intend to use them after turning them into slaves?”

I felt like his eyes could see through lies so I honestly spoke.

“The command would be to not harm me and the people involved with the Healer’s Guild and healer clinic, and to not damage the assets and horses of the Healer’s Guild. They will be treated as labourers and act as guards for the Healer’s Guild and healers. As for employment conditions they will be able to take meals and sleep as usual. It will be something like that?”

” ... (What a seriously weird guy) Very well. Enter.”

The slave seals for criminal slaves were affixed onto the 13 ruffians.

“That was the last of them.”

“Old man, Ienith will take care of the bill so please claim for it later.”

” ... Okay. However, does Deviant Saint-sama not intend to purchase slaves from this shop?”

“Yeah. I would want to purchase them if I looked at them but the

Healer's Guild does not have enough rooms. After rebuilding, I will consider buying from this shop."

"Uhuh~ I will wait without getting my hopes up."

Looks like the elderly wolf beastman Guralga-san calls old man is called Reruga-san. It seems like Guralga-san was pleased with me after we left the shop so that was good. He left for the mansion after speaking.

"Slaves, you will be going to the Healer's Guild after this so I suggest you obey the commands. Your treatment can become better, or it can become worst too. Well then, I'll be going back."

We walked with Cathy at the foremost, with me behind her and the slaves sandwiched between me and Lionel at the end. However, the slaves obediently walked from beginning to the end due to the pressure from Lionel.

When we returned to the Healer's Guild, there were 2 Priest Knights standing at the entrance.

"Thank you for your hard work. Were there any anomalies?"

"No. Many made gestures glancing at us but nobody approached us."

"Over the course of events we obtained these 13 criminal slaves, so I plan to have them stand guard at night from today on."

“I’m glad to hear that.”

The 2 Priest Knights were elated. That’s because night watch is tough right.

“Sorry but please stand guard for a bit longer.”

“”Yes!””

We entered the guild in succession and Dolan came over to me.

“Ooh Luciel-dono, that took you long. For the time being, I excavated horizontally slightly in the underground. I forgot to ask you to purchase magic stones to affix the earth but don’t worry the ground is firm so it will not collapse immediately. Also, what about the stuff I requested for?”

“Yeah. I have them in the magic bag. I obtained them from underground, but are these fine as magic stones?”

He nodded when I showed him the magic stones dropped in the Labyrinth of Tribulations.

“If they are Dark attribute magic stones we can use them as long as we soak them in Holy water to purify them but do you have Holy water?”

“Purification? Please give me a moment.”

Upon applying purification magic, the magic stone's colour turned into pale blue.

“Ooh, anything is possible for you huh. If it's like this then I can use it immediately.”

He delightedly took the magic stone from me.

“I see.”

I looked back and gave my instructions.

“Lionel and Cathy, thank you for the escort. Please go underground and take out the luggage. After that, you can take a break while monitoring the slaves. For the slaves, give your thanks to Dolan for making your beds and give him a hand.”

I announced and proceeded underground. As I saw that the underground was really wider, I placed the purchased items like the wood down, and lastly cast purification magic on a hundred magic stones like the previous one and left them with Dolan.

“I'll leave the rest up to you. I'll give you a call when food is ready. Please work hard until then.”

“Ooh leave it to me.”

Dolan was rotting without his arms.

The man who once again bestowed upon him arms asked of a favour from him.

Dolan had never thought that he would be relied upon once again to manufacture things.

What was requested of him was the expansion of the Healer's Guild. Everything was left up to his discretion.

Dolan's profession is blacksmith, but being relied upon once again filled Dolan with motivation.

At this point in time, Luciel did not know that the expansion that he imagined, had instead become remodeling? no, magic-remodeling.

Chapter 060: The Healer's Guild

Underground Facilities

I thought that tidying up the rooms after taking my meal would be troublesome so I first went to place the beds in each room.

Since the rooms in the 2nd floor were 10 tatami mat in size, even if we place 2 beds in, it is just a space for sleeping so it can be said that it is wide enough.

As my subordinates conveyed their thanks to me, I headed to the kitchen.

Naria and, for some reason, Paula were in the kitchen. Even though I had just applied purification magic to the kitchen a while ago, I was now making an effort to sanitize every corner with purification magic.

Magic tools associated with cooking were installed everywhere in the kitchen.

I requested for this to be done when I went out to shop because I intended to cook after that, but there was something bothering me since a while ago.

“Paula, what are you doing since a while ago?”

Since just now, Paula was touching the magic tools, using them,

and now she was picking them up and looking underneath them.

“I am interested in magic tools. When I was in grandpa’s workshop I often made them.”

Can magic tools be manufactured? I took out a mountain pile of magic stones from my magic bag and applied purification magic on them.

“I see. However, I plan to cook now, so you would be a hindrance if you stay here. Dolan is currently down below, so I will pass these to you if you swear that you won’t do anything dangerous.”

Paula nodded at high speed, she looked delighted as she hugged the magic stones and descended underground.

“Well then ... Naria, I’m going to make dinner now, but before that, does Lionel eat a considerable amount?”

Naria showed that she was considering for a bit before she answered.

“Hmm. I think he is able to eat more than a normal person.”

As expected ... I thought as I decided on the menu.

“Let’s go with curry and rice with a warm salad. For now, let’s make double of the number of members we have. Naria, wash the

vegetables with Sparkling-kun, strip the vegetables with Slippery-kun on peeling mode, before changing it to chopping mode and putting them through. I'll demonstrate once."

After cleaning them with Sparkling-kun, I peeled them by putting them through Slippery-kun.

"Oh right. Place the skin into Dry Fertilizer-kun here which will convert them into fertilizer. Start it only after all the skin are placed in."

"Erm? Why are you making this fertilizer?"

"I plan to have farming done someday. At that time, if we thinly spread this fertilizer on the earth and plow it, the soil's fertility will surely recover slightly. It's a trivial dream."

I smiled while answering Naria, as I extracted multiple pots, vegetables, spices and meat from my magic bag, and began prepping them.

I collected water from the water filter into the pot and placed the meat in after the water was boiling on the magic stove.

Magical beast meat has a lot of scum and the smell of blood is strong so using them without prepping would make the dish taste bloody. When I was taught by Grulga-san and Granz-san, I was advised that only this process must absolutely not be skipped.

After about 20 minutes, the meat had boiled. I took them out and slice them with a fine kitchen knife before rubbing herbs on.

In the meantime, the vegetables were simmering in the pot. I adjusted the spices for the curry, removed the scum from the vegetables, before adding in the meat and spices, and continued to simmer them using low heat.

I repeated this 5 times. It was fine to keep any of the leftovers in the magic bag anyway. I didn't have any problems with making too much.

All that's left was to prepare the bread and rice.

“Naria, first of all, please call the Priest Knights and healers on the 2nd floor down.”

“Yes.”

After they had their meals, I, the 2 Priest Knights outside as well as the purchased slaves Lionel and group had our meals first.

The criminal slaves were shown that scene and were forbidden from speaking.

And then, we finished our meal.

“I have also prepared the share for you all. Today's final order is

to properly guard the exterior after your meal. The duration will be until tomorrow morning. If you accomplish that then you will get your breakfast. After your breakfast, 8 hours of sleep and break time will be given. As a general rule, other than during guard duty, you are forbidden from leaving the Healer's Guild. Conducts such as discarding written reports detrimental to the Healer's Guild or recent reports of yourself is forbidden. Once you all are accustomed to guard duty, I will assign your duties into shifts. If that happens, I believe that the task will be easier compared to now. As long as you all are sincere, I promise that the treatment regarding meals and room will remain the same as now. However, if you betray me I will have you drink this so keep that in mind."

When I took Object X out everyone began trembling? Eh? Is this a hated object to that extent for beastmen? I wondered about that as I gave the permission to eat. Maybe because it was to their liking, everybody finished their food.

"Lionel and Cathy, I ask that you monitor them in shifts. Eventually, I plan to have the Priest Knights monitor them as well, but due to the long journey, I wish to let them rest for today at least."

"We are slaves so there is no need to care for us to that extent."

"That's right nya. Leave it to me nya."

"Thank you."

The 2 of them have taken the same oath as to not betray us

similar to the criminal slaves, but if possible, I wish to have them trust me, and let me, in turn, trust them ... I wish to build such a relationship.

In the end, there was 10 person's share of curry left over so I stuffed it into the magic bag.

Thereafter I began preparing for tomorrow's breakfast. I permitted Naria to prepare tomorrow's dinner if she wants to.

After I finished my preparations for tomorrow's breakfast, I returned to my own room first.

“I have less time for myself than I had imagined.”

As I muttered the obvious, I closed my eyes and prayed using the magic communication bead to contact the Pope. Upon doing so, a voice echoed in my head.

《This is Fluna. Have Luciel arrived at Ienith safely?》

It was the Pope's voice. After telling her that I have reached the Healer's Guild in Ienith safely and about the events that happened today in minute detail, I told her about the countermeasures I have planned for the future and the direction I wish to take for the Healer's Guild. After I obliged to contact her tomorrow as well, I cut the communication.

After that, I did some magical power training before going to bed.

Evidently, I had also accumulated fatigue from the journey as I immediately wandered into the dream world.

The next day, I woke up as normal ... no, a huge 『DON』 noise just before woke me up from slumber.

“An attack?!”

I quickly transformed into my full equipment and left my room.

Similarly, my subordinates came out of their respective rooms.

“I have no idea what’s going on so all members temporarily gather here!”

I immediately deployed a 「Area Barrier」 and gave out instructions.

“The healers will standby at the 1st floor reception area. Priest Knights, please confirm the situation outside before joining up with Lionel and the slaves, verify their condition and return to me to report! If combat breaks out, we will fight back by barricading ourselves in the Healer’s Guild. Everyone descend!”

『Yes!』

Even though they had just woken up, everyone moved at a brisk

pace.

“If Dolan’s around, can we escape from the underground?”

I asked as I descended down the stairs and headed to the underground floor.

What awaited me at the underground was an amazing sight.

“Ah, Luciel-dono, were we too noisy?”

Yes, the person who asked that in a carefree manner was Dolan.

His voice came from a considerable depth underneath but his words did not enter my head.

I surveyed the expanded underground 1st floor as I approached the center of the opened up area. That was when I grasped the entirety of the underground.

Yesterday, there was without a doubt only 3 rooms.

After returning from shopping, the area was widened by about 6 times, until the area was on par with the 1st floor.

And now, for some reason, there were a magic elevator and stairs installed in the center of the floor, with an increase of at least 4

more floors below.

“Oi~ Luciel-dono? For the time being I have completed the construction until the underground 5th floor. I constructed the underground 5th floor with the image of having it as a prison for misconduct. Next, for the underground 4th floor, I heard that Luciel-dono wanted a training ground to train with Lionel-dono so I made a training ground. There was a need to manufacture weapons for the guards so I made a smithy and magic tool workshop on the underground 3rd floor. I transferred the slave rooms to the underground 2nd floor, extended the height of the underground 1st floor and tried making it such that the horses can come down here from the stables outside to exercise. I also heard from Naria that you wanted to cultivate a field so I tried to combine a field into the floor as well. The magic stones were all used up for this, so the adjustments are still to come.”

Dolan explained to me while looking like he was feeling refreshed. Behind him, Paula was sleeping with a pleased look on her face.

I worked my brain desperately.

... It wasn't an attack.

That's good.

Eh? Didn't I work out the details to perform the expansions little-by-little yesterday? Did I forget to tell Dolan? No, that doesn't matter anymore ... Are dwarves supposed to be so amazing? I'll

voice my questions first.

” ... The noise this morning was?”

“That was the sound from when the magic elevator slammed to a stop because Paula accidentally miscalculated the movement range of the elevator. As you can see, after completing the fixes she went to sleep.”

Could Paula construct magic elevators? That’s shocking news! Even though it was a perfect scene with the grandfather smiling while looking at Paula, I had to ask what I had in mind.

“Paula can construct magic elevators?”

“Amazing right! She’s been swinging the hammer since young but she’s only focused on tampering with magic tools and she can now synthesize magic stones!”

Ah, he had begun boasting about his granddaughter. However, Paula is also amazing ...

“By the way, can all dwarves accomplish such feats?”

“There’s no way that can be true. Only brother Grand and I can accomplish such a feat like this.”

Brother Grand?

“Is that Brother Grand your brother?”

“No, he’s my senior schoolmate.”

I see. So he is his junior ...

“The legendary master craftsman blacksmith Grand-san?”

“Ooo! You know about brother?”

I had no idea how was I going to caution him when he was looking so delighted, so I decided to just say a word.

“Firstly, thank you for your hard work in expanding the place. However, we can’t manage anything more than this so please do not expand anymore.”

“Don’t worry. All that’s left to do is some minor modifications.”

After that, the Priest Knights came over to report that there weren’t any anomalies outside, but it goes without saying that they were all shocked stiff like me.

After carrying Paula to let her sleep in her room, Dolan explained to us each floor in order.

I used the magic elevator after such a long time ... or not. It still looks dangerous after all. We descended down the stairs to the underground 5th floor.

“As explained earlier, these are the jails to lock up prisoners. Well, I made it just in case, I think we can use it as a storage as well.”

In spite of him saying that, the iron bars were securely made. Even when I pushed and pulled them they did not budge so they were very sturdy.

“Even so, isn’t 10 rooms a bit too much?”

“I have a feeling that some big shot will come who we won’t be able to convert into a slave.”

“Please don’t say such ominous things.”

“Okay.”

He might not be wrong altogether. We climbed the stairs under the atmosphere created by Dolan.

“For the training ground walls here at the underground 4th floor, unless it is of substantial force, even if magic hits the wall, there would not be any scratches on it. Paula and I collaborated to make this.”

The space was about 40 to 50 square meters. It was smaller than the one at the Adventurer's Guild, but for training it was wide enough."

"It's true that I said that I wanted him to train me, but ..."

I realized that he thought that I was a combat maniac equivalent to Broad-shisho as we proceeded to the underground 3rd floor.

"I had thought of asking for permission for these. But ..."

Dolan's voice became softer. But that's to be expected, as there were 2 full-fledged workshops.

There were even signs hung up that said [Dolan's Arms Workshop] and [Paula's Magic Tools Workshop]. It was clearly made with more care compared to the other floors.

"Well then, to the underground 2nd floor."

"Luciel-dono! Please wait a moment."

I was dragged into his workshop. After I handed over the equipment from the criminal slaves that they no longer needed and Grand-dono's Holy silver sword, as they seemed like they could be broken down, together with purified magic stones, Dolan's tension burst through the roof.

“Also, magic stones for Paula as well please! To create is our purpose in life!”

He stressed that point so I placed down the purified magic stones. Even though there weren't many magic stones remaining, there wasn't any use holding on to them, so I took out all the magic stones within my magic bag.

“I no longer have any more magic stones. Please use them for the Healer's Guild's sake first.”

“Luciel-dono, I give you my thanks.”

I was finally liberated after that. Temperature control functions were installed into the slave rooms in the underground 2nd floor, so I decided to have them installed in our rooms on the 2nd floor as well.

We finally arrived at the underground first floor where he created an environment for the horses to gallop but I told him to make some minor improvements.

While ensuring the safety of Fornoir and the others, Yanbus told me about a method to prevent them from accumulating stress, so I had Dolan create that environment.

“Understood.”

Dolan was brimming with motivation but I warned him that staying up all night is bad for the body so I instructed him to get proper sleep after taking his meal.

“It would be bad if people began to think that this is the underground facility of a regular Healer’s Guild.”

I muttered as I went straight to the kitchen after remembering that I had to prepare breakfast.

Chapter 061: Ienith's Adventurer's Guild

After breakfast, the only person who wasn't shocked by the underground transformation, Lionel, visited me in the guildmaster's room to ask if he could have Dolan manufacture weapons for him.

“Before talking about the manufacture of weapons, why did you ask for the training ground on your own accord? Even though it is only about half the size of the one in the Adventurer's Guild, considering that magic circles were carved into the walls, isn't it strange that you did not report to me first?”

I didn't yell. That's because yelling would use up my stamina.

Especially since I would be left with the worst result if I yelled at someone more senior than me.

There's also the danger of his trust and faith in me becoming zero.

That's why it would be more effective to ask about the mistakes when angered, solving them one at a time.

Of course, in cases where it doesn't get through no matter how many times it is said, the level of anger will gradually rise, but this was the first time so I talked calmly.

“It is as you have said. I have overstepped my boundaries.”

Lionel admitted to his mistake and lowered his head. Blaming him any further would only be for my self-satisfaction so I stopped there.

“Hereafter, please exercise more caution. Certainly, you may think that I am unreliable because I am young but I will give it some serious thought if you propose it. And so, do you have anything to report regarding the night security?”

My senpai told me that it is counterproductive to assign a penalty on a first offense because it would cause them shrink away. That’s why I changed the topic and asked for the report.

“I do. There were zero attacks but I did feel their presence. I believe they retreated due to the large number of guards on duty. The criminal slaves seem like they would be an asset if we train them and they did not raise any dissatisfaction with regards to their treatment. Also ... apparently they were not sent by Shaza and gang, but were instead interference sent from the Herbalist Guild.”

Now that he mentioned it, I didn’t gather information from the assailants ... I’ve been way too absentminded.

“Thank you, Lionel. I forgot to have a talk with them. ... I’ve been thinking about it since yesterday but, who are you exactly?”

I finally asked.

“Fu~ ... I was only in a slightly high up position in a certain country. I am now a slave, and I have set my heart to be Luciel-dono’s retainer.”

From the looks of his eyes, those were his genuine intentions. It certainly seemed like he would not speak any further. I gave up on knowing his true identity this time.

“Ha~. Very well. Please tell me when you judge that it is fine to do so. Regarding the manufacture of equipment, it involves the raw materials as well so discuss it with Dolan. Well, it is impossible to have it done immediately, so you can just hold on to my Shisho’s sword for now. I leave the defense of the Healer’s Guild to Lionel together with the slaves. In addition to the task of escorting me when I go out.”

“Yes! Certainly.”

He placed his hand on his chest and made a bow, before turning his heel and walking out of the room.

I took out a large stack of parchment and summarized all the things that I had to do.

- Rebuilding the Healer’s Guild

- Maintaining the public order in the Healer’s Guild

- Accepting patients and establishing the healers clinic
- Food
- The issue with the Herbalist Guild
- Investigation of Ienith including Shaza

“To turn to the Adventurer’s Guild when I’m troubled huh ... I’ll try sending Shisho a letter as well. I have a method to increase the value of my name in one go, but I absolutely do not want to use it.”

In the morning, I wrote the letter for Shisho and made the signboard for the Healer’s Guild together with my healer subordinates.

Lionel had woken up by the time I finished making lunch, so we all ate together.

In the afternoon, I left the criminal slaves to Jordo-san. Similar to yesterday, I headed to the Adventurer’s Guild with Lionel and Cathy, with the addition of the Priest Knight Piazza.

“I plan to visit the Adventurer’s Guild to perform a demonstration. My healing magic does not appear to be typical and they would not intentionally come to the Healer’s Guild as long as they do not know about the effects.”

“That’s a good train of thought nya.”

“If we can separate ourselves from the Herbalist Guild’s area of expertise then there wouldn’t be any disputes so I think that it is a good idea as well.”

” ... I will escort you regardless of how you advance.”

“I will first have them know about healers. Next, we will investigate the Herbalist Guild and shop for goods on our way back.”

Each of the 3 of them gave their replies and we headed to the Adventurer’s Guild.

The adventurers in Ienith’s Adventurer’s Guild were, unlike the one in the Holy City and in Meratoni, predominantly made up of races other than humans.

“As expected, the layout of the guild are all the same. Well then, I’m heading to the counter so follow me.”

I walked towards the counter after saying that. No matter how you look at me, I’m no different from adventurers.

“Nice to meet you. I am the person in charge of the Healer’s Guild, S-rank healer and adventurer Luciel. Is it possible for me to meet the guildmaster?”

I presented my healer card and adventurer card to the receptionist. The receptionist was a cat beastwoman, but she differed from Cathy.

“Luciel-sama right? ... I will convey the message to the guildmaster so please wait for a moment.”

She left her post after saying that and performing a bow.

” ... Cathy, why do you end your sentences with nya or nyan?”

I asked a silly question and Cathy replied with a laugh.

“I was told that this way is cuter nya.”

” ... I see.”

The line of sight was gathering on us but, especially since I wasn't alone, I did not felt anything close to bloodthirst.

“The guildmaster would like to meet you, this way please.”

The returning receptionist informed us and we followed her to the guildmaster's room.

“So the guildmaster here has a proper guildmaster room.”

When I said that while walking, she was clearly shaken.

“It doesn’t really matter, but if I am lied to I may dump this Object X onto receptionist-san. About 10 barrels worth...”

When I said that while laughing, she stopped on the staircase landing.

” ... We are now heading to the guildmaster’s room but the person you are meeting is the vice-guildmaster Jias-sama.”

I’ve obtained new common knowledge that Object X can be used as a threatening tool for beastmen as I questioned further.

“What is the whereabouts of the guildmaster and what is the reason the vice-guildmaster wants to meet me?”

“I do not know the whereabouts of the guildmaster. As well as the reason why he wants to meet you ...”

She shook her head. When I glanced at Lionel, he shook his head as well so it doesn’t seem like she was lying.

“I understand. I will not dump it on you so don’t worry.”

She looked extremely relieved and once again began ascending the steps.

After knocking and obtaining permission to enter, receptionist-san opened the door and we entered the guildmaster's room.

The ones there was the first dragon race I've seen and Shaza.

Shaza stiffened when he saw Lionel but for some reason, the dragon individual stiffened when he saw me.

"Nice to meet you. I am the person in charge of the Healer's Guild, S-rank healer and adventurer Luciel. Guildmaster, thank you for meeting me. Shaza as well, we've met yesterday."

I called out while smiling amicably.

"I, I am not the guildmaster. I am the vice-guildmaster Jias. It is an honor to meet you."

He immediately stood up from his chair and bowed. His voice sounded nervous.

It looked like Shaza was also surprised at the vice-guildmaster's actions.

"I see. And so Jias-sama, where is the guildmaster?"

"Yes. He is currently at the activated labyrinth. I believe he is currently fighting."

“No matter how strong the guildmaster is, isn’t it weird that he took action personally?”

“Yes. But if brother doesn’t go, capturing would not be possible ...”

So the top brass for the guild here was a duo of dragon brothers.

“I see. This time we, the Healer’s Guild, wanted to perform a demonstration for the Adventurer’s Guild, but this is really regrettable.”

“Demonstration?”

“Even though the existence of healing magic is known in Ienith, I believe many do not know the actual effects of it. That is why we intend to demonstrate healing magic once, to inform people about the healing magic at the Healer’s Guild.”

” ... And what would you like to have the Adventurer’s Guild do?”

“Please gather the injured to the training ground below. We will let them experience the treatment by the Healer’s Guild for free. Ah, this is the original price list.”

I handed a booklet with the guidelines and terms to Jias-dono.

“As you already know, the healing magic by healers do not treat diseases. Even so, I wish to let the adventurers who make a living by fighting as well as this country of Ienith know the reason for having a Healer’s Guild.”

After listening to my talk, Jias-dono was staring at the price column in the guidelines.

I’ve already said what I wanted to say. Saying any more would have an opposite effect so I waited for his reply.

Shaza simply couldn’t speak under Lionel’s gaze. No, was it because he wanted to verify Jias-dono’s true intentions but he don’t know if he should ask or not?

“Okay. ... Would tomorrow at this time be fine?”

“Yeah. Thank you. I’ve been thinking of decreasing the mortality rate of adventurers as much as possible so it benefits me to have it so soon.”

“By the way, can anybody use this magic that can cure petrification and neurotoxin?”

“No, even for healers only a handful can perform it. Among us, nobody else other than me is capable of using it. But there are multiple healers that are likely to be able to use it soon.”

That's right. I have had Jordo-san and others perform magic as much as possible. That's why it wouldn't be strange that their Holy attribute magic levels up.

" ... Well then, I will await your arrival tomorrow at the underground training field."

"Thank you very much."

I exchanged handshakes with Jias-dono.

And then, right before exiting the guildmaster's room, Lionel spoke.

"Shaza-dono, the mastermind for yesterday's incident was the Herbalist Guild. I'll report it just in case."

We left the guildmaster's room without waiting for a reply.

Within my heart, I was wondering why was Jias-dono that friendly? My heart was caught up in that as we left the guild and headed out to shop for goods.

On the other hand, around the same time in the guildmaster's room, Shaza was asking Jias about what that was all about.

"Jias-dono wasn't that different from what we discussed! Why the heck did you act that way to that Healer's Guild youngster?! ..."

Shaza held his tongue from surprise when Jias's eyes tinged with bloodthirst.

“Shaza, you called that person a mere brat? Are you thinking of showing disrespect to the our humanized dragon race, we, who worships the dragon race-sama and possess the divine protection of the dragon race!”

Jias was infuriated.

To the humanized dragon race, the divine protection of the dragon race was equivalent to one from the Chief God Kuraiya, no, they strongly believed that it was above that.

For the humanized dragon race who holds the divine protection from the dragons, they can sense for example what kind of race the other person is.

Since birth, of all the people Jias seen with the 「One who possess divine protection」title, Luciel is the 5th.

And he was the first individual apart from humanized dragons that he's seen possessing divine protection.

It was a hand of salvation from the dragon race-sama for us brothers driven to a corner due to the crisis of the labyrinth activation.

That was the cryptic premonition he had.

I had no idea that it was, once again, the manifestation of 「Great Luck」.

While Shaza was frightened by Jias, he was angered by the Herbalist Guild for taking actions on their own accord.

(Each and every one of them is a hindrance! Look at the situation now.)

The frustration from things not going his way gradually dyed Shaza's heart with hatred.

Chapter 062: Disciple Cornered By His Shisho's Boasts

After leaving the Adventurer's Guild, we went shopping for some goods before returning to the Healer's Guild, but we were not attacked today.

Either because the magic tools were interesting, or that there was a lot of free time today, the healers cooperated with Naria and to began to prepare dinner.

“We're back. Is everybody making dinner together today?”

I asked laughingly. Jordo-san replied as the representative.

“Yeah. Because currently we don't have anything else to do once we finish our healing magic study group. Nevertheless, this collection of recipes is amazing. Even dishes from my hometown are listed in it.”

He laughed joyfully and the other healers similarly swelled with excitement.

Even Naria nodded as well, but Lionel was behind me so I didn't pry any further into his background.

“Then I'll leave tonight's cooking to you all. Also, I would like all the healers to follow me to the Adventurer's Guild tomorrow. Ah,

it's not to fight. Just for tomorrow, we'll provide free treatment to inform them about our healer's healing magic. I've already discussed this with the Pope so don't worry."

Visiting the Adventurer's Guild. As soon as I announced that, I saw the color drained from everybody's faces.

Which was why I immediately added in that it was not to fight. They showed relieved expressions and began discussing with each other. But I felt sad after catching a slight glimpse of what they think of me.

"We will depart after tomorrow's lunch. I will have Piazza-san remain in the guild tomorrow to command the criminal slaves. I will be in the underground for a while so please let me know when dinner is ready."

"Certainly, Luciel-dono."

After Jordo-san performed a pose of salute with his hand on his chest while laughing, the others also laughed and imitated him.

While thinking that it was a good trend that Jordo-san creates such atmospheres, I also saluted while laughing and descended underground.

Cathy said that she had something to discuss with Naria so she remained in the 1st floor. Lionel was the only person next to me.

” ... This is the underground right?”

I muttered. Even Lionel who wasn't surprised this morning was surprised now.

” ... Was, I think it's become 'this was the underground?' ”

The calm and collected Lionel looked like he received a blow to the face. I didn't feel his usual manner that comprehends everything coming from him.

That's to be expected. Who can predict that such a pseudo-space can be built within a couple of hours?

This morning, the underground first floor's magic stones embedded in the high ceiling were adjusted such that the space was as bright as the Labyrinth of Tribulations.

There was also a small field and a walking space that looks like it was meant for Fornoir and the horses to have some simple exercise.

Now in the underground first floor, the ceiling had become a sky that even had the sun. Furthermore, there was even wind blowing.

The field looked soft, like it was tilled by a cultivator, and there even was a fence so that Fornoir and the horses wouldn't enter.

In addition, the walking space meant for Fornoir and the horses became a ranch and Fornoir and the horses were spending their time leisurely within it.

“Is such a thing possible in reality? Rather than that, can this be done by man?”

“It’s thanks to master. My 「Magic Engineer」 level and 「Magic Tool Manufacture」 skill level increased.”

The person who replied to my mutterings was Paula instead of Lionel.

“So you’ve woken up, no that’s not it. Paula, you can create pseudo-spaces?”

“Not yet. Only after increasing another 2 ranks would I be able to use 「Space Expansion」.”

She shook her head but isn’t this child’s ability broken? Then, Dolan appeared and began boasting about his granddaughter.

“Ooo! You’re back, Luciel-dono, Lionel. The reinforcements for all the floors have been completed. After that, we made adjustments that we are interes ... that are useful to everyone.”

This dwarf totally wanted to say that it was because he was interested in trying it. As I was still in shock, Paula held out her hand towards me.

“Hmm? What is it Paula?”

“Magic stones please.”

” ... ”

” ... ”

” ... ” (Glare)

I glared at Dolan and he averted his gaze.

“I no longer have any? I passed it all to Dolan and told him that I don’t have anymore.”

Upon hearing that, Paula slowly looked like she was going to cry as she said a single word to Dolan.

” ... Grandfather you liar.”

“Guha!”

It had outstanding destructive force towards Dolan’s mental spirit.

“There was no helping it. Luciel-dono hoped for the safety of the Healer’s Guild, so that amount of magic stones was all needed to stretch a barrier around the whole guild. Paula understands that right.”

“Grandfather said that master had a lot of magic stones.”

“That was because ... ”

Halfway through the argument between the 2 of them, I asked Lionel.

“About what level are the 2 of them?”

” ... As Blacksmith and Magic Tool Enchanter, top-notch and close to first-class. Of all that I’ve met, Dolan-san wins one-sidedly. While Paula is still young, that technical capability of hers show considerable ability.”

... Don’t tell me ... I’ll try asking just in case.

“Is Naria as strong as Lionel and Cathy, or has abilities like Dolan and Paula?”

“Naria has no expertise in combat and magic.”

I wonder.

” ... However, she is sensitive to presence and can mask her own presence and magical power, and she can teach etiquette.”

A normal person ... or not? Eh? They are all not normal? Or is it that this is common?

“Luciel-dono, please come with me to obtain magic stones, or please command me to obtain magic stones.”

Dolan implored, looking like he was going to cry. Paula was swelling her cheeks and crossing her arms. It was easy to see that she was angry but ...

“No. In exchange, I will hand you this. Write down anything that you want to make along with drawings. And please discuss with me what you wish to build. I will hold on to the magic stones for the time being.”

“No, no way.”

Dolan drooped his shoulders lifelessly and Paula with her pouted cheeks, changed into a stunned expression.

I will not think that Paula lacks facial expressions.

I thought as I passed parchment, ink and pen to them.

“Please properly write down the effects and capabilities of what

you intend to make and submit it to me, together with an explanation. If I adopt the design I will somehow manage the magic stones issue.”

Then, the 2 individuals who were depressed up until just now took the parchment from me and thanked me before immediately descending to the underground 3rd floor.

“Looking at the 2 of them makes me motivated for tomorrow as well ...”

“Leave the escorting to me.”

“Thank you ...”

As I was applying purification magic on Fornoir and the others, I prayed that the demonstration tomorrow at the Adventurer’s Guild is successful.

The dinner that day was tastier than usual.

To be able to bring out such deep flavours with Naria leading them, as expected of my rival ... No, of course I didn’t think of it that way and I decided to ask her to teach me next time.

For night guard duty, Lionel and Cathy maintained the defence by splitting the criminal slaves into 2 groups. I contacted the Pope, did some magic training as usual and went to bed.

After waking up, I stretched and performed magical power manipulation training before heading to the kitchen. As I was placing down the ingredients, Naria called out to me.

“Good morning master.”

“Morning. I’ll be relying on you in the kitchen from today onwards. Because I’ll be doing some training underground.”

“Understood.”

She sent me off with a polite bow. Upon reaching the underground 4th floor ... there was already a visitor.

“Good morning Lionel!”

“I’ve been waiting.”

Lionel grinned. He was equipped with a greatsword in his right hand and a large shield in his left hand.

” ... How did you know that I was going to come train?”

“When people get attached to their habits, they will feel bad when they don’t get to follow their habits.”

“And so?”

“As promised, I will train Luciel-dono.”

He said that while laughing but his real intention was surely different.

” ... If you don't tell me your real intentions, I'll just run on my own.”

He shrugged his shoulders and replied.

“I wanted to confirm whether my combat sense had dulled. The other is that I heard you are a healer that can take a beating and can revive a person as long as it is not a fatal injury, so I was feeling envious.”

From who? And where? As I was thinking about that, maybe Lionel read that from my expression, he gave a name.

“Whirlwind Broad ... 20 years ago in the past we once competed in an arena. In the end, we both collapsed and it was a draw. Since then we began exchanging letters and became friends.”

Broad-shisho!? Aren't they exactly birds of the feather! So he is confirmed to be a combat maniac after all?

” ... I am a healer so ... I can really easily die so please go easy on

me.”

“There’s an important matter today as well. I’ll exercise discretion when training.”

“Okay. I’ll have a run before we begin.”

I ran under Lionel’s watch and did some body-weight training to get ready.

I felt nothing but bad premonitions facing Lionel, but I set up a barrier at full force and went along with the flow.

If I compare Broad-shisho and Lionel, it is skill and power.

Broad-shisho has better sword accuracy, greater number of moves planned in advance and outstanding avoidance capabilities by far.

Lionel has a herculean sword that can break you in 1 hit and an impregnable shield.

The image I have of them in my mind is of a leopard and a bear.

I did not see the revolving lanterns during today’s training.

But there was just once when he tore up my left arm together

with my shield. It was nostalgic looking at his flustered expression. The way he reacted was similar to Broad-shisho.

However, I strongly prayed that this mock battle doesn't become a daily routine, as I continued calling out in my heart for the 'Breakfast is ready' to come quicker.

Chapter 063: Object X Is A Cheat Item

After completing a tougher than usual training session, I found that the criminal slaves were gathering at the training ground.

“Ah~ Good work with the night guard duty. Get some proper rest after having your breakfast.”

For some reason, they were surprised by what I had said, but their stomachs were empty so they rode the long-awaited magic elevator and returned to the surface.

We found no problems with it when we checked the operation of the magic elevator yesterday.

When I arrived at the dining hall, I saw that all my subordinates had not touched their food.

“Sorry to keep you all waiting.”

I apologized as I took my seat, saying a prayer to God before starting my meal.

“Luciel-dono, would you also be providing treatment today at the Adventurer’s Guild?”

A subordinate asked.

“Yes. However, I’ll leave the basic treatment to you all. I will examine those that can’t be treated with regular 「High Heal」 such as poison or petrification, but you all are the leading roles in rebuilding the Healer’s Guild in Ienith.”

“Do you mind if we observe when Luciel-dono is giving treatment?”

“Sure. During treatment, I would not be able to commentate on what I’m thinking about or what image I visualise for treatment, but I will answer your questions when we return so please ask questions later.”

While having such conversations, our breakfast ended.

Today’s meal by Naria was tasty too. I wish to entrust the task of cooking to her but she’ll most likely need an assistant.

I placed that thought in the corner of my mind as I drew the layout of the Adventurer’s Guild and the place I will position myself so as to visualise the image better while everyone listened to me seriously.

(To think that they don’t oppose me even though I’m still young, I have to thank the Pope and Granhart-san who selected my subordinates for me.)

“We will definitely make it a success!”

『Yes!』

From then until noon, I secluded myself in the guildmaster's room, until I heard a knock on the door.

“Yes. Please enter.”

The ones who opened the door and entered were Dolan and Paula. In their hands was a bundle of parchments bound together.

” By any chance, did the 2 of you not sleep at all?”

The 2 of them with bloodshot eyes didn't say a word as they placed the bundle of parchments on the desk.

” ... Don't tell me this is everything you want to make?”

The person who replied was Dolan.

“Half are what we want to make, the other half are what can be sold.”

Paula spoke next.

“They can definitely sell for a lot. That's why please convert half of that revenue to magic stones.”

It's going to be incredibly troublesome to read all of these ... I thought and decided to use the magic word.

"I will let you know after I read them later so please have your breakfast and go to sleep."

However, my magic word was completely buried by a single reply.

"We will eat and sleep here until you read them."

Paula's bloodshot eyes had already accumulated a lot of tears.

"Ka~. Luciel-dono, as a man, you can't make women and children cry!"

"Ha~ ... Dolan your acting is way too poor. And so, which should I began reading from?"

"'Mine' of course!"

Paula glared at Dolan as she pointed at the parchments that she wrote.

"I'll read them alright, so the 2 of you please relax on that sofa there."

I finished reading just as the call for lunch came.

“Paula will adopt 2 of the works and keep 4 of them on hold. Dolan will adopt 5 of the works and keep 1 on hold. Also, I want the 2 of you to make these by all means but I do not have the money now. I promise to work my skills such that I would be able to purchase the magic stones sometime soon.”

Dolan and Paula exchanged a high five and had lunch together with me after they had calmed down. It was impressive that both of them could eat while looking so sleepy.

“Okay. Let’s go!”

『Yes!』

The members going to the Adventurer’s Guild shouted to psyche themselves up.

『Take care.』

“We’ll do our best!”

Those who saw us off prayed for our safety as well as for us to achieve our goal.

Nobody talked during the journey to the Adventurer’s Guild that took roughly 10 minutes.

Which was why, at the entrance, I looked at everybody and spoke.

“Let us show the Ienith’s citizens how amazing we healers are.”

『Yes!』

The healers all had high tension.

“Capable Priest Knights protecting the healers, demonstrate your skills if anything happens.”

“”Yes!””

“Lionel, Cathy, I entrust my defence to you.”

“Yes!” “Yes nya!”

I opened the door to the Adventurer’s Guild.

“So you’ve arrived.”

Even before heading to the underground 1st floor, there were injured individuals already gathered. And it was not only injuries, the adventurers suffered from abnormal statuses like poison and petrification.

“We’ll go with Plan C. We’ll go to the reception before heading underground. Everyone, please do not stop your feet. I will help those that look like they are going to die.”

I announced loudly before heading to the reception. The fact was that we had decided on a pattern beforehand.

Pattern A which assumes that there would be interference, Pattern B whereby there are no individuals to treat at all and Pattern C where they all have injuries that the Herbalist Guild couldn’t treat. There were others but I’ll omit them.

“As promised yesterday to Jias-dono, I am S-rank healer Luciel, in-charge of the branch in Ienith. Please act as our intermediary.”

“Un, understood.”

As the receptionist ran to notify Jias-dono, I declared.

“This time, the Healer’s Guild will apply healing magic free of charge. As long as everyone obediently wait for their turn, we will definitely treat them. We will decide on the treatment order. We will reject anybody who cannot accept that. In addition, if an attack is mounted or any violence is taken, we will immediately cancel the treatment. We are not as merciful as the Gods. Only, the feeling of wanting to treat, of wanting to provide treatment is real. Thank you.”

『Thank you very much.』

It was really reassuring to have the healers that accompanied me here.

Jias-dono finally came over and I called out to him first.

“Jias-dono, we will apply magic on patients with greater emergencies first. I will treat only those that are seriously ill on the 1st floor. Their conditions might take a turn for the worst but I have to inform you ahead of time that I am not omnipotent like a God.”

“Okay, Luciel-dono. Well then, everyone this way please.”

The healers descended underground, leaving only Lionel and Cathy as my escort.

I immediately moved into action.

A half-petrified young man was nearby.

“Does he suffer from any poison or paralysis? It’s fine even if you don’t know, please explain the situation to me.”

The friend supporting him spoke, sounding like he was going to cry.

“It ... it’s from a trap in the labyrinth, pl ... please save him.”

Lionel stopped the man who looked like he was going to cling on to me. As I began chanting, the man supported his companion instead and began praying.

Firstly, I chanted 「Dispel」. The petrified man emitted light before returning to his original body the next instant.

Following that, I applied 「Middle Heal」 and he looked like he recovered completely, but his face was still pale so I applied 「Recover」. This time, the colour returned to his face.

“With this he will make a full recovery. If he lost any blood ... ha~.”

I applied 「Recover」on the man that was stopped by Lionel just now.

“It’s great that you worry about your companion, but you yourself were inflicted with weakness by some poison so I advise you take care of your own life as well.”

I treated people who had faint consciousness, pertification or poison, looking like they were going to die.

“It would be quicker if you all lined up you know.”

As I said that while advancing, at the underground, instead of sounds of gratitude, there was a commotion.

“Never mind that, heal me first! Who do you think I am.”

The 2 Priest Knights couldn't stop him. Jias-dono was also desperately trying to soothe him but to no avail.

“If that's the case, we are fine with immediately ceasing treatment!”

I said it in a loud voice such that the man could hear it.

“I have no idea who you are. However this time, the treatment is a demonstration offered by the Healer's Guild. We do not ask for anything in return so you have no right to complain.”

I approached the arena.

“If you are a hindrance, I will formally file a complaint against you through the Adventurer's Guild!”

“Who the heck is this brat.”

“I am the S-rank healer Luciel. The person in charge of the Healer's Guild in Ienith. If you interfere with our treatment, I will hold you responsible for all the adventurers here not getting any treatment from us. If you wish to be treated then obediently wait

for your turn. You have 2 choices.”

Lionel was in front of me while Cathy and the adventurers hoping to get treated were behind me.

I thought that it would be fine no matter who the opponent was but the man laughed and commanded.

“So you are S-rank? If that’s the case then eat this! Get him!”

At that moment, he tossed some black powder towards me.

“Che.”

The instant after I heard that click of the tongue, Lionel moved and readied his large shield in front of me to defend against the black powder, while Cathy pressed down to cover me but even Lionel and Cathy couldn’t deal with the powder that was thrown from multiple directions.

Because of that, I was also hit by the black powder.

“Kukuku, that’s magic sealing powder. Struggle as much as possible. Let’s go.”

The man made sure that I was covered by it before announcing and escaping.

“I won’t let you escape!”

Maybe because Lionel couldn’t protect me, he threw his greatsword towards the man that was going to get away.

“Che, it’s fine even if you hit me.”

The man said that as his body became thinner, transforming into a log with a tag stuck on it.

(Ninja?)

As that thought crossed my mind, Lionel muttered before yelling out.

“This is Darkness magic, furthermore, it’s an illusion ... If that’s the case, somebody stop those men!”

Lionel shouted towards a different flight of stairs from the one we descended down from. The guards most likely heard Lionel’s voice but the men weaved through the training ground laden with severely ill patients and ran up the stairs.

“To think that we received such an attack ... those who can move go out and look for those guys.”

Upon shouting that, Jias-dono slumped his shoulders looking extremely disappointed.

“I’m sorry Luciel-dono.”

“I truly had not expected that nya~.”

Lionel and Cathy slumped their shoulders as well.

“Oioi are you all not going to treat us?”

“Are healers such people? Help us.”

“I dragged my body over here through the pain okay.”

The adventurers vented their anger on the healers.

It seemed like the healers were hit by the powder as well. It looked like they couldn’t use magic.

I slowly walked as I began chanting.

【By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish for no harm onto my body and myself, return the unclean existence to its original path. Purification】

My body radiated light, leaving no trace of the black powder behind. In addition, I walked towards my subordinates and began chanting.

【By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish to get rid of all that is hidden in the body, return to your normal state. Recover】

I applied 「Recover」 on all 5 of my members.

The area around where I used magic was wrapped in silence.

“Well then, we’ve had some problems but those who wish for treatment please obediently wait for your turn. From now on, it is fine to restrain those who wish to kick up a fuss. Right? Jias-dono.”

He had a stunned expression but he immediately recovered himself and announced while nodding.

“I will not forgive any more commotions!”

“Well then, let us continue working hard to treat them!”

I said to my subordinates and began treatment once again.

Object X is a cheat item for me after all.

Even though there was the demerit of not levelling up, the 「Seal Resistance」 helped me this time as well.

I went about healing people as I thought about that.

Chapter 064: Ienith's Adventurer's Guild Guildmaster Is A Muscle-Brain

I'll change the humanized dragon term I use to dragonewt until there's any further mention about dragonewts since humanized dragon sounds very awkward. >.<

Even without using 「Dispel」, my subordinate healers who successfully used 「Recover」 healed the adventurers suffering from abnormal statuses.

Patients suffering from petrification or were in a mess with collapsed arms and eyes were all treated by me.

After treatment, they erupted with joyous expressions, embracing me or linking their arms with me and spinning me round and round.

But there was 1 thing on my mind. That was that nobody was leaving.

(Normally one would go home, right? Should I warn the others to stay vigilant against something happening again?)

I allowed my subordinates on the verge of magic depletion to rest, while I asked about the symptoms of the patients and healed them one-by-one.

【By the hand of holy healing, by the breath of Mother Earth, I wish to get rid of all that is hidden in the body, return to your normal state. Recover】”Fu~ with this, everyone is alright now.”

I surveyed the surrounding area, calling out to make sure that there weren't any more patients around.

“Are there any patients left? Please sound out if there are anybody around you with a pained expression or have not received treatment.”

... It appears that nobody is calling out, so I guess we've completed our task.

“Adventurers, what happened earlier was a mistake by the Adventurer's Guild and have caused inconvenience to the people from the Healer's Guild. There were people who verbally abused the healers who gave us treatment for free although it is not originally free right? The ones we should be blaming are those men that perpetrated the incident.”

Under Jias-dono's words, the beastmen's expressions showed regret. Jias-dono continued.

“Certainly, they said that the treatment, this time, would be free of charge. However, is it fine this way? No, it is absolutely not. We, are beastman adventurers. We will repay favor with favor!”

The very next instant, the underground training ground shook

with the shouts from each and every one of the beastmen.

“Find those men and the mastermind! They should definitely be in this city. We, including myself, will make up for our blunder!”

『Oooo-!』

The beastmen lowered their heads and ran up the stairs.

“Luciel-dono, healers, I am terribly sorry.”

Jias-dono said and lowered his head.

“Please raise your head Jias-dono. Their aim was most likely to cause an interference. If our magic remained sealed and could not provide healing, rumours such as “The healers gave false hope and abandoned many patients.” would circulate. Instead of news of their act of sabotage, our bad reputation will spread and the position of the Healer’s Guild would worsen.”

” ... That’s ... right.”

I asked Jias-dono who looked like he had an idea.

“Are they criminals close to Jias-dono’s Ienith representative, or are they criminals from the Herbalist Guild?”

All of the healers and Priest Knights were shocked. Well, that's because I didn't tell them that we are now at ends with the Herbalist Guild.

"I cannot determine where they are from this time. The black powder that was thrown onto you all is touted as "Throw it on monsters to seal their magic.", and has been sold by the Ienith Herbalist Guild since a long time ago."

" ... So it's something that can be obtained easily ... Well, I'll leave this incident to Jias-dono and the adventurers who are more familiar with Ienith."

To be honest, since they struck first, we have no choice but to stir up the hornet's nest. I believe that it is best to leave all the decision-making to others for such things. I also can't afford to expose my subordinates to any further danger.

" ... To immediately trust me despite my blunder ... too naive ... but, I will definitely track down the root of this incident."

Jias-dono said so but I wasn't actually trusting him. I merely thought that it was fine to rely on him.

"We will be returning to the Healer's Guild now, but please let me know if you find anything."

"Okay."

He once again lowered his head and sent us off at the entrance.

“Well then, we’ll be going off.”

As I was saying that, Lionel who was leading in front suddenly stopped at the entrance of the Adventurer’s Guild.

“What’s ...”

The matter. Just as I was about to complete my sentence, adventurers suffering from severe injuries were carried over.

The ones shaken by that was not us but Jias-dono instead.

“Brother?!”

The guildmaster was among the injured so I issued instructions.

“I will be using 「Area High Heal」 so patients please come within 3 meters from me. Everyone else please treat their poison or paralysis after that.”

『Yes!』

Right after I instructed my subordinates, the dragonewt with a discoloured body that was supposed to be asleep stood up before glaring at us and screaming.

“You bastards are healers~! Speak! Just how much do you intend to rip us off!”

With an appearance that was more brutal than Jias-dono, I was seized by those ferocious eyes and rage.

But for some reason, I was totally unafraid. I was shocked by my own heart that felt sadness instead.

“It will be free of charge this time. As an injured person please calm down!!”

I unconsciously yelled with a loud voice, surprising even myself. However, thanks to that the dragonewt calmed down. I confirmed that he entered my range of 「Area High Heal」 and began chanting.

There were many heavily injured individuals including the dragonewt, but it didn't look like there were any problems apart from the abnormal statuses, so I first applied 「Purification」, 「Dispel」 and 「Recover」 in sequence to the dragonewt that had the most severe injuries, resulting in his discoloured body returning to his original state.

As I saw, at the corner of my eye, the dragonewt had a dumbfounded expression as he touched his own body, I helped my subordinates as there were many patients with abnormal statuses. It took us only a few minutes to finish treating the 10 plus individuals.

After I finished treating everybody, I went over to greet the dragonewt and guildmaster that I treated first.

“I am sorry for yelling at you just now. I am Luciel, S-rank healer from Ienith’s branch Healer’s Guild. Yesterday, I asked Jias-dono to let us conduct treatment today for free to let people know about the healing capabilities of the Healer’s Guild and our healers.”

The dragonewt looked at me in a daze, before turning to look at Jias-dono and Jias-dono nodded. And then, for some reason he knelt (seiza) and began speaking with his head bowed down.

“Please forgive me for my rudeness previously.”

He remained in the dogeza posture as he said that and I realized that he planned to continue talking in that pose so I hurriedly asked him to stand.

I have no idea why he suddenly performed a dogeza, but weird rumours will definitely circulate about if he stays like that any longer. Although it may already be too late ...

While my head was hurting thinking about that, I somehow got him to stand up before saying.

“As the Adventurer’s Guild guildmaster, please do not abruptly dogeza at the entrance of the Adventurer’s Guild! I’ll be troubled if weird rumours surface.”

“Ooo! I am terribly sorry ... ” “An apology is enough. Please do not dogeza again.” ” ... ?! I am grateful.”

Because I avoided the development of a loop, he began speaking. But in my mind, (The impression he gives off is way too different from when I first saw him!), I thought as I listened to him speak.

“I am Jasuan, the guildmaster for the Adventurer’s Guild. I had secluded myself in the labyrinth and I had also not thought that I would be able to meet the S-rank healer-sama so ...”

I was curious about the rage-filled eyes just now so I tried asking.

“I’ve mentioned earlier that I wanted to educate people about healers and their abilities, but does Jasuan-dono not have a good impression of healers?”

A shadow fell on his face when he heard that.

” ... Yeah. When I was young, I was denied treatment multiple times and was confronted with exorbitant prices so I don’t have any good impressions. However, few years back S-rank healer Luciel-dono was discussed in the meeting at the Adventurer’s Guild headquarters.”

Broad-shisho was a former adventurer and Jasuan-dono should be an adventurer as well. If that’s the case, then it’s not strange for them to dislike healers after travelling the world? Anyway, who

was it? The one who spread rumours about me?

” ... That’s news to me.”

“Is that so? I heard that even though he is a new healer who began living in the Meratoni Guild Headquarters, he doesn’t consider race or gender and uses healing magic the best he can, in addition to saying that he is still in training so he only charges 1 silver coin for it.”

For some reason, it had been altered into a moving tale.

” ... Is there a continuation to that?”

“Yes. In just 2 years, he was transferred to the Saint Schull Church Headquarters and rose to the top in one go as the S-rank healer in less than 2 years, a healer brought up by the Adventurer’s Guild.”

... There was some truth mixed in so it’s hard for me to deny it.

“According to the reports that I heard, your race of dragonewts opposed to inviting the Healer’s Guild right?”

“... Yeah. I am the guildmaster for Ienith’s Adventurer’s Guild so I can’t become the representative for the tribe, but that’s what I heard too. However, I had thought that it was fine like that too.”

Hmm? Past tense?

“What do you mean by ‘had’?”

“I didn’t expect to be able to receive this kind of amazing power without paying any compensations. Not to mention it was for injuries that the Herbalist Guild had given up on.”

Jasuan-dono’s expression changed from that of a smile to rage as he thought about the Herbalist Guild, but I had to correct him there.

“Unfortunately, it is only free for today. This is the guidelines and there’s a price chart within.”

I passed him the same one I gave to Jias-dono the other day from within my magic bag.

” ... These are the charges?”

“Yeah. If Jasuan-dono had to actually pay this time, 「High Heal」 would cost 3 gold coins, 「Purification」 50 silver coins, 「Dispel」 2 gold coins, 「Recover」 1 gold coin, in total it would be 6 gold coins and 50 silver coins. Is it too expensive?”

It was written in the guideline that the price could vary from 1 to 1.5 times the stated value, but I calculated it with the base value.

” ... No, it’s too cheap! High-quality potions cost 5 gold coins and expensive medicine used to treat poison and paralysis cost 1 gold coin, but they do not possess effects as good as these.”

“I’m glad to hear that. Since I struggled considerably to set the prices.”

I did market research repeatedly to decide on the prices.

Not only the adventurers, I also surveyed the healers working in the healer clinics.

In addition, as a trial conducted solely in the Saint Schull Allied Nations, for healers with low skill levels for Holy magic attribute, they can practice their 「Heal」 by charging at half price in addition to meals and lodging provided for them in the Healer’s Guild and Adventurer’s Guild.

I believe it was due to the hard work by the Archbishops.

If the price I decided on was too low, it would spark another dispute. As I was worried about that, Archbishop Munera with his unscrupulous merchant’s face said a few words to me that made me entrust it all to him.

“Do not make enemies in places you do not know about when you haven’t even reached 20! We old timers with few remaining years to live can convince others better, and even if we are blamed for it, it would only be for a short time. Moreover, if we create this, we

could leave our names behind for the future generations. Please share some of that honour with us as well.”

At that moment, I apologized with a dogeza in my heart for thinking that he had an unscrupulous merchant’s face.

The ones that should truly be praised for creating all of the prices in 2 years should be them, but the ones who stood on the podium were the Pope and me.

Their achievements and names were only recorded in the guidelines, but they were delighted with just that.

I made an oath to work harder as a healer for their sakes and am truly glad that I have their support to come to Ienith.

“If that’s the case ... Luciel-dono is also an adventurer right?”

” ... Yeah. That’s right.”

Hmm? I have a bad feeling about this.

“In that case, I wish to submit a nomination request!”

“I am not a B-rank adventurer, so I have no obligation to accept nomination requests.”

I knew it. However, there wouldn't be any problems even if I turn him down.

“Ku. Then, if possible, I wish to establish a temporary healer clinic outside the labyrinth. Of course, we will bear all of the expenses.”

... No limits at all? But, this was also out of the question.

“That's impossible. Today, in the midst of healing there was an interference, and the day before yesterday I was attacked in the city as well. Until the Healer's Guild is safe and operational, I will not leave the Healer's Guild. Furthermore, I am responsible for the Healer's Guild.”

” ... I see.”

He gave up. I breathed a sigh of relief.

” ... Then if everything is cleared, I will be able to have you establish the healer clinic?”

Eh? He didn't give up? Rather than that, isn't he proceeding in a different direction?

“As I've mentioned, I am the person in charge for the Healer's Guild though?”

“I am also the guildmaster for the Adventurer’s Guild. I swear to give my all to ensure the safety of the Healer’s Guild and the establishment of its status in this city.”

My words did not reach him.

And when I sought help from my subordinates, they all averted their eyes.

Even the Priest Knights too.

Moreover, I felt that the 2 slaves were happy with the proposal made by the guildmaster.

Thus, the Healer’s Guild demonstration ended without problems?, and I was caught in a new problem with a hidden mastermind.

Chapter 065: Healer's Guild Assailants

The healer's healing magic demonstration ended with great success.

We've received high evaluations from the Adventurer's Guild guildmaster Jasuan-dono and the vice-guildmaster Jias-dono. They informed us that, in the future, until the healer clinic is established, they will contact the Healer's Guild for anything apart from diseases.

“Even so, I didn't know that you all are so heartless. Especially the Priest Knights Blitz-san and Dotasu-san, please come to my defence okay.”

The both of them didn't look apologetic at all. Blitz-san was the first to apologize.

“I'm sorry. Although it was the first time I've seen dragonewts, I thought that they looked friendly so ...”

“I'm sorry too. He was the guildmaster after all, so he wasn't a target that I could counter ...”

The 2 of them blinked multiple times and talked while facing upwards. Hmph~ It doesn't look like it's what they're truly thinking.

” ... Is that your true opinion?”

I asked with a grin.

” ... Because he was scary.”

” ... I was moved seeing Luciel-dono bravely stand up to him.”

This time, the 2 of them told their real feelings.

“You are my escorts after all so do your jobs properly. Also ... Lionel and Cathy, even if the temporary healer clinic is built I will not bring you 2 along.”

The grin they had on their faces since just now changed into an expression of shock.

“Luciel-dono, please do not say such barbarous things.”

“That’s, that’s right nya. I don’t wish to expose master to danger like when I was late to respond today so please bring me along nya~”

The 2 of them were most likely not lying.

“Could you explain everything honestly?”

My intuition was telling me to ask that.

“I have no intention of using dulled combat sense as an excuse for the delay in detecting the assailants. However, my muscle strength has decreased throughout my body so I couldn’t react immediately. That’s why I wish to train again.” (Lionel)

” ... I wish to enter the labyrinth and have an adventure nya. I’ve longed to do so since long ago nya.”

I have no idea how much time has passed since Lionel last walked, but he most likely knows that his upper body and lower body muscle composition differ and it should be true that he wants to train.

If Cathy is Lionel’s subordinate, it wouldn’t surprise me if they were soldiers from some country.

So it might not be a lie altogether.

” ... I don’t know what the future holds, but please work hard such that I can trust the 2 of you.”

“Understood. I will first train the criminal slaves.”

Lionel, please don’t break them?

“I’ll do my best nya.”

I have no idea what Cathy's going to try her best for, but it's a good thing that she's motivated.

And then, I listened to the events from Jordo-san.

“By the way, Jordo-san, those men who threw the black powder did not restrain Jias-dono at all?”

“I don't know. However, they did announce that they could easily kill the adventurers present. As soon as that man raised his hand, magic appeared on the surrounding men and we were threatened to prioritize healing.”

To be able to take hostages, they were fairly well prepared?

As I thought about that, the conversation changed to leisurely chats as we walked and quickly saw the Healer's Guild.

This time, the lookouts in front of the Healer's Guild were criminal slaves.

“Good job, were there any abnormalities?”

The 2 criminal slaves nodded and one raised his voice.

“There was a commotion due to a small fire there, and some men tried to enter the guild using that opportunity, but they have been rendered paralysed and are now in the underground.”

... ? What does he ... mean?!

“Did you hear a sound or anything?”

The 2 of them nodded in tandem and answered.

“There was a rumble.”

” ... Then it’s Dolan and Paula. When you say underground, do you mean the underground 5th floor prison?”

The 2 of them nodded once again.

“Looks like here was targeted as well.”

“Yeah, let’s go to the underground. Well then, I will leave the lookout to the 2 of you.”

The 2 of them showed surprised expressions when they heard that, but now was not the time for this so I entered the guild.

The interior was the same as this morning.

I felt relieved as I gave out instructions.

“Everybody, thank you for your hard work today. Please use the remaining time from now to do whatever you wish, ah, if possible, please help with dinner. Lionel and Cathy, follow me.”

『Yes!』 “Yes nya.”

The 3 of us rode the magic elevator down to the underground 5th floor. There, we saw Priest Knight Piazza-san together with 8 criminal slaves, and 7 men locked in the prison.

“Well done Piazza-san.”

“Yes! Welcome back Luciel-dono. I’ll give my report. Around 2 hours after you all departed for the Adventurer’s Guild, there was a commotion involving a small fire beside the guild. To fight against the fire, several of us exited the guild. That was when these men took advantage and tried to invade the guild.”

It was the same testimony as the 2 slaves above.

“That was when before they could enter, they were paralysed and you found it suspicious so you brought them down here. Does my deduction match?”

“Yes! I brought their personal belongings to Luciel-dono’s dwarf slaves.”

Well, he has no magic stones now and have nothing to do so it should be fine ... but maybe he’ll be angry after a while.

“Thank you for the report. Everyone, please return to your tasks. We will deal with this. Cathy, please call Dolan and Paula.”

“Yes! Let’s go.”

“Nya.”

Looking at them follow behind Piazza-san in succession, I think Piazza-san handles them strictly.

Or is it that I’m too soft? As I thought about that, I had a hunch so I looked at the assailants and sure enough.

“Kukuku. With this, the safety of the Healer’s Guild seems to be ensured.” (Lionel)

” ... You look happy.”

“Haha. It’s good that you reached your goal. I should quickly begin training again. I will show you that I’ll be useful the next time.”

Lionel declared.

The ones that were caught were the subordinates of the man who threw black powder on us.

“And so? Why did you all come to get caught on your own?”

“It was ... U, U ... ku ...”

The man could not articulate.

“Ah, you can’t articulate properly. However, I’ll leave you guys like that for now. Would it be fine to question them before sending them to the Adventurer’s Guild?”

“Usually, it would be normal to question them after they are made into slaves, but there might be some assailants that become slaves on purpose to die by rebelling against you so you need to ascertain their intentions.”

“I see ... you’re here.”

Cathy brought Dolan and Paula over.

The 2 of them had a slightly dissatisfied expression.

They most likely have been toying with most of the belongings from these assailants.

I’ll begin with praising them first.

“Dolan and Paula, the guild barrier worked splendidly this time. However, how did you set it to identify them as assailants?”

Dolan began talking happily.

“It’s amazing right~! Paula installed an electrical shock system to the barrier. And then I adjusted the barrier so that it can be activated successfully.”

“I think it’s amazing, but how did you get the barrier to ascertain individuals?”

“The target is those who holds strong malice and hatred.”

” ... Just hypothetically, if they hold strong feelings against an entity apart from the Healer’s Guild, would it trigger as well?”

That instant, the talkative Dolan stopped talking.

” ... ”

He remained silent so I looked at Paula.

” ... ”

And I looked at Dolan again.

” ... ” 『Saa』

Dolan diverted his line of sight from me.

” ... ” 『Saa』

Paula hid behind Dolan so that she doesn't enter my line of sight.

” ... Since the 2 of you did not report such an important matter to me, I will punish you. Development works will be prohibited for a week ... ”

“Luciel-dono, we will improve ourselves so please do not say such cruel words.”

“Master please don't be so ... mean.”

The 2 of them desperately tried to repeal the punishment. It was really obvious to see.

” ... I'll put it out there, you guys are slaves after all right? It is too late for me to comment on your work tendencies, but I will penalise you if you do not report to me properly in the future. Well then, if you have anything else you've forgotten to mention, please say it now.”

“Ah, if placed into the prison, without considerable resistance to magic seal (「Seal Resistance」) one would not be able to use magic,

and without 「Weakness Resistance」, one cannot move well.”

I face-palmed and thought.

(Why didn't I notice that since this dwarf would never build a normal prison.)

I'll take a deep breath for now and settle down.

” ... Whenever you've made anything, report to me without fail. I trust and am confident in the skills of the 2 of you. But, I cannot trust and be confident in your actions. That's why, please modify your actions so that I can trust and be confident in you.”

“Nuu, I'm sorry.”

” ... I got carried away.”

“Well then, the 2 of you please work hard to modify the barrier until dinner.”

“Understood.”

Dolan nodded and replied while Paula only nodded. It's good that they did not lose their motivations? Or is it.

After bidding them off, I cast 「Recover」 on one of the assailants.

That man stood up and raised his voice.

“The S-rank healer should have been rendered useless! Why are you fine?!”

Maybe there were fake customers at the Adventurer’s Guild? If that’s the case then was it a friendly who instigated them? Well, it doesn’t really matter now, but I’ll need to request for a report of this later.

“Yeah. My 「Seal Resistance」 is high, so it was absolutely ineffective and the demonstration ended successfully.”

“Che.”

The man who clicked his tongue remained silent.

Most likely he decided that talking anymore would not be a good idea. Well then, should I start with the interrogation? I declared after applying 「Recover」 on all the assailants.

“I will begin the interrogation. It’s fine if you don’t wish to reply. I will just have you drink this.”

『Don』 I took out a barrel and opened the lid, filling the underground 5th floor with the smell of Object X.

“I don’t really enjoy seeing blood, so during interrogation, I will

give you Object X instead of water and food. You are free to talk whenever you want to.”

Lionel retreated until the staircase leading to the underground 4th floor.

Should I use this as well when preaching to him later?

“Ah, by the way.”

I poured Object X into a mug and drank it clean.

“Pu~. As you can see I can drink this normally and am not fazed by the smell, so I can accompany you all here. I will send those who testify to the Adventurer’s Guild, but I am fine either way.”

After declaring so, I looked at the colour fade from their faces and predicted the amount of time they would persevere, so I spent the time doing some magical power manipulation.

Lionel somehow managed to remain standing at the stairs.

They felt discomfort from just a little whiff of Object X, but I predict that Lionel and they may be able to bear with the smell, so time passed by.

Chapter 066: Men Who Assertively Follow Orders

I have no idea how much time has passed ... or not. The men immediately began making a commotion.

“I don’t have it, I don’t have my mask.”

“My mask and goggles are gone as well.”

“My magic pants is gone as well.”

“My full face helmet is ... ”

... The men most likely had equipment that could block off the smell of Object X.

I won’t tsukkomi one of the comments there ... But I understand that those 2 would not hesitate and go through any means necessary to obtain equipment and magic tools.

These people are the precious victims that made me understand that.

“S-rank ... What happened to my magic bra?”

As I was thinking about that, the first to stand up was a leader-

like man who said that ... but, by any chance is he a woman with that appearance? ... I'll confirm it just in case.

” ... Are you a female?”

“Of course not! That is ... right, I can only calm down with that on!”

It's fine to emphasize it, but that excuse is unreasonable. Moreover, if he is a guy then there will be no mercy!

“Is that so. I've received reports that all your belongings and equipment have been taken by the 2 dwarves that you saw just now. That is why, it have already been examined and modified, so it will never return to how it once was. Please give it up.”

Was the equipment that they mentioned meant to block off smells? Or were they capable of preventing abnormal statuses? However, they now know that the items that they needed are no longer with them and they expressed hopeless expressions.

“It's fine. If you all don't talk, I will just make you all into slaves tomorrow and relinquish you to the Adventurer's Guild after I make you drink undiluted Object X.”

The instant I delivered the final blow, the men raised their voices.

Devil, demon, villain.

However, a few minutes after those were thrown at me, a man talked.

” ... The ones who hired us were the Herbalist Guild and this city’s representative!”

It happened much earlier than I had expected.

I saw Lionel at a long distance away looking amazed as well.

I did say that I wanted them to speak, but I had the man who began talking take an oath.

“If you tell me everything that you know about, I will get rid of the barrel of Object X. I also swear to God that I will not make you drink Object X. However, if you lie to me, I will cast a magic that makes you want to drink Object X. Once you become a slave, Object X would be your meal for some time. Do you pledge the words you will speak from now to God?”

“Che, I swear! If I don’t lie, you won’t make me drink that right?”

“Yeah. At the very least I promise to treat you humanely for your time here.”

The man sighed a breath of relief as he began talking.

“Our job was to sabotage the Healer’s Guild and crush the healer’s healing showcase today. The sabotage of the Healer’s Guild was impossible due to the tight security, but this morning you all went to the Adventurer’s Guild in force so we thought that this was the time, but as you can see, we’re now here.”

There wasn’t any change in the man even after he talked to that extent, so I recovered the Object X. The others also spoke out. (TL: Apparently it seems like they are held in different cells so he has a barrel in front of each cell.)

“I’ve said everything that I’ve heard, so please place that somewhere far away.”

“S-rank healer-sama, I’ve also said everything that I know, please keep that away.”

... Do they really hate it that much? Well, it’s fine.

“Alright, 「Purification」”

I applied it to the man in the prison who spoke out first. He looked bewildered and spoke.

“There’s no smell? A smell as pungent as that disappeared?”

“Since I promised to treat you all humanely.”

I answered with a smile and the other men began talking as well. Was Object X's smell really that unreasonable?

“Okay. Well then, you guys share will be placed in front of their prison then.”

I placed the barrels in front of the assault leader-like man before listening to their story.

There wasn't any among them that lied.

They were initially employed by the Herbalist Guild.

Currently, the criminal slaves working as guards for the Healer's Guild were the underlings of these men, but because the organization itself is small, without the criminal slaves, the executives had no choice but to mobilize this time around.

It seems that yesterday, Shaza appeared at the Herbalist Guild and wildly yelled at the vice-guildmaster for sending assailants at me on their own accord.

And apparently, he told them about the healer's demonstration today at the Adventurer's Guild today and strictly ordered them to sabotage it before going back.

Thus, these men received the request.

When asked why they couldn't kill me, they were told that there was a possibility that I might be wearing poison resistant equipment, that they don't have poisons that cause instantaneous death and that the escorts were too strong which made it impossible to approach me.

For that reason, by using the magic sealing powder such that the healers cannot heal, together with a little instigation and rumours spread based on the traditionally rooted contempt for healers within beastmen, they planned to cause the Healer's Guild's reputation to worsen and crush the operations of the Healer's Guild.

The men told me.

Does Shaza intend to go that far to drive us out of Ienith?

Despite giving him a warning once, he still can't make a decent judgement?

"... Why tell that to the vice-guildmaster? What's the guildmaster doing?"

"The guildmaster is a man who is only interested in compounding, so the operations are all led by the vice-guildmaster."

"I see. I will ask 1 final question, why is Shaza able to dominate

the vice to that extent? Even if you say he is a representative, this is still too unnatural.”

” ... For that, I also have no idea why.”

There wasn't any change in the behaviour of the man, so he probably really doesn't know.

“Does anybody here know him?”

But they all shook their heads.

“Okay. I will hand you all to the Adventurer's Guild tomorrow, but I will offer food to you.”

When I handed them the bowl with bread and curry, they looked delighted. But the leader that was now hidden behind the barrels has yet to say a word.

I was curious so I went to look at his situation. He was foaming.

However fortunately, he was still breathing, so it looks like I discovered him just immediately after he attempted suicide.

In this world, as long as you're not dead, there would be no problem reviving you.

I immediately used 「Recover」 and 「High Heal」 to restore the man, before scooping out water with my hand from a water barrel in my magic bag and splashing it on his face. The man regained consciousness.

“In front of an S-rank healer, don’t think that you would be able to die so easily. Also, if you really wish to die so much, at least be useful to others in the end before dying.”

The man remained silent.

After that, Cathy came over to call me over for dinner.

“Cathy, when did you go back to the surface?”

“I somehow had a very bad feeling nya! Nyanya?! It’s super smelly here nya.”

“Is that so. Then, I order you to monitor these guys until I’ve finished my dinner and come back.”

“No, no way nya~!! That is way too cruel nya~, Lionel-sama~”

She said that and clung on to Lionel, but Lionel replied with a straight face.

“I am a slave, so I have no choice but to listen to the words of my owner.”

“You’re eyes are smiling nya~!”

“It’s punishment for running away on your own.”

Lionel said, causing Cathy to hang her head. 『Gaku』

I kept all the barrels of Object X into my magic bag and applied purification magic to the entire underground 5th floor.

“It’s fine like this right? Please properly keep a lookout.”

“As expected of master nya. I’ll work hard if it’s like this nya.”

I said a single sentence to Cathy who had returned to normal.

“If you get carried away, I’ll make Cathy drink Object X as well okay?”

“Nyaa!!”

The second I said that Cathy replied with a salute.

This sure is useful.

I was convinced that it was so, as I went for dinner together with

Lionel.

The S-rank healer together with his slave ascended the stairs.

“Hey! You’re a slave right? If you release us, we will get a slave dealer that we know to release your slave seal.”

As a beastman slave, furthermore of a healer who are primarily human race advocates, there is a high chance that this slave is looked down upon severely, so I said after considering that, but the reply was completely out of my expectations.

“I am of course dissatisfied with the position of a slave. But that’s all. Other than that, I am interested in my current life.”

“But you’re a slave?”

I had no idea what this cat beastwoman was saying.

“That’s right. It is true that my identity is a slave. However, it’s not like I am tied down in particular, I get the same food, I’m even given time to sleep, and I live in a room with another person but we have proper beds to sleep on.”

“Ha?”

I had no idea what this person was saying.

Beastmen slaves are basically used and thrown away. Even getting leftover food would be excellent, they would normally only get water.

What's surprising is that she is given a room and she even has a bed to sleep on.

This was completely not the treatment for a slave.

“... That guy, what kind of guy is that S-rank healer?”

“A timid person with a naive personality. But he does not discriminate against other races, and even though he holds such power and status, he is a man that doesn't get prideful. That is why I have pledged allegiance to him.”

” ... Is that so.”

Listening to the cat beastwoman speak, I thought that it would have been a different story if I met this guy earlier, but this was probably my fate.

Our future was already set in stone.

That was why I told him everything. With what I received from the beastwoman that I could not hate, I've decided on what to use my life for.

SIDE END

Chapter 067: Self-Awareness Towards Kindness And Easygoing Behavior

While Lionel and I had our meal with everybody else after we returned to the 1st floor, I informed everyone that we have already captured the people who threw black powder on us in the Adventurer's Guild.

“Because of that, I hope that you all can rest in ease today. Especially Jordo-san and healers, adventurers may come for treatment from tomorrow onwards so please take your time to rest.”

“Understood. Would you be converting the men who attacked us into slaves to use them as guards as well?”

“No, I will be handing them over to the Adventurer's Guild after listening to their story. I plan to observe how the Adventurer's Guild deals with them. There is the possibility of increasing the number of slaves, however, as long as they are here, they would need to be fed but we do not have ample funds for that. Moreover, even if they are slaves, if we do not treat them humanely, the reputation of the church would be damaged, and even though there are many beastmen slaves in this country, if they starve to death, I believe it would negatively affect the sanctity of the Healer's Guild...”

I mixed my real intentions and official stance together as I stacked up excuses.

” ... I see. If that’s the case then what should we do with the criminal slaves obtained yesterday?”

“I truly intend to have them work until the public order is restored and the Healer’s Guild becomes operational, but after that, I might make them pledge once again or I might release them, or maybe even sell them to the slave dealers. I will decide after I properly understand them and this country.”

” ... Okay.”

I guess Jordo-san had his own line of thought. Seemed like he was thinking about various things.

After that, there was a question and answer session regarding the magic used in the demonstration today and some leisurely chat. After we’ve finished our meals, Lionel and I returned to the underground.

On the way to the underground 5th floor, Lionel spoke to me.

“Luciel-dono, you are too naive. Are you aware of that?”

I unconsciously stopped walking due to the words that came out of the blue.

“I am. But, I can’t bring myself to ignore human rights just because they are slaves. For example, I can’t accept that the slaves belong to the owner.”

I said that to Lionel who was a slave.

“Fumu. And so, are you able to differentiate between kindness and naivety?”

Lionel placed his hand on his chin and asked calmly.

“Yeah. Naivety is when you act while trying to make people like you or think well of you, kindness is when you sympathise with others.”

Now that I think about it, in my previous life when I first obtained a subordinate, I was too concerned with him, and instead hindered his growth. After that, I remember I was invited for a drink by my section chief and was scolded at the bar.”

” ... You should learn to be a little stricter. If you do so, you should be able to make people follow you even though you are young.”

What Lionel had just said was most likely what everyone that I’ve met until now felt.

I understand ... but I have no idea if I can change myself just by understanding.

If I am not slightly more conscious of this, I might set a bad

example for my subordinates, maybe.

” ... Understood. I will try to learn from Lionel little-by-little. When the temporary healer clinic is established at the labyrinth, I’ll be going there with the criminal slaves so I’ll entrust holding the fort to you.”

“This and that are different topics...”

“You sure are quick in changing your attitude ... I give you my thanks for the advice, Lionel. For now please think of it that you are lucky to be bought by the naive me.”

“I might have been too impertinent, but I gave the advice because ... I feel that Luciel-dono would be in danger if you advance forward while remaining like this.”

Lionel bowed.

I wonder why is it that the uncles that I’ve met know more about me than myself.

I carved the words of Lionel, who is like a Shisho to me, deep into my chest and pledge to change bit-by-bit.

Shortly after that, we arrived at the underground 5th floor.

“So slow nya~”

“Okay, if you speak so frivolously, should I make you drink Object X to tighten your lips?”

After I said that with a smile, Cathy trembled and said while taking a praying pose.

“I beg for your mercy, anything but that nya~”

Her prayer is not bad~ I thought as I gave the command.

“There’s no helping it. If that’s the case then go swap duties with the Priest Knight Piazza.”

“Certainly nya~”

Cathy ran up the stairs in the blink of an eye.

“Was there a need for that? Nevertheless, that’s some great acting.”

I mumbled and Lionel shook his head.

“That expression is one that she makes when she really hates something.”

He said while looking at Cathy run away.

Object X is really such a threat to the beastmen huh~ I thought as we arrived in front of the prisons. The leader-like man called out to me.

“S-rank healer, could you hear me out?”

The strained atmosphere was no longer around.

“Okay.”

“What is your opinion regarding beastmen?”

The question was so abrupt that I couldn't understand him.

” ... I don't know what you mean?”

“Don't you think that they are different compared to humans?”

Beast race? Like how their gestures are cute? Ah, but men from the beast race are scary so that's moot. If that's the case, then their special characteristics?

“They have their characteristic ears and it seems convenient if you can get used to the tail.”

” ... That's enough. I will spit out everything that I know, so

swear to me that you will not discriminate against beastmen and half beastmen.”

Even though I answered after much deliberation ... I considered him a rude guy who calls off the topic if it doesn't interest him, but there was no problem with that demand so I accepted it.

“Eh? That's completely fine. I swear to God. You will say everything as promised right?”

The stunned man remained stiff for a few seconds before spitting out a large sigh.

” ... Ha~. Firstly, the reason why Shaza could dominate the vice right? That's because he and his race, the tiger beastmen and dragonewt beastmen are involved with the Herbalist Guild.”

Those 2 races are involved in this after all. But I didn't feel that the top echelons of the Adventurer's Guild were that evil~. I'll listen to his story for now.

“In what way are they involved?”

“It's not like they have a hostage. This country did not have a Healer's Guild. That's why treatment of injuries and diseases were conducted by the herbalists of the Herbalist Guild.”

They have no other choice if there isn't a Healer's Guild.

“Yeah. I understand that.”

“After the decision to invite healers over, the Herbalist Guild approached the leader of Ienith, the dragonewt race, to abolish the invitation. At that time, it was decided because they offered discounts for their medications. Conversely, they began selling to the dog beastmen, cat beastmen, rabbit beastman and fox beastman at 2 to 5 times the price. Disputes occurred countless times, but in the end, strength was used to suppress them. It was decided that if you oppose them then you would not be able to purchase medications in the future.”

... So that was why even though they were in such a sorry state, they could not invite us. Even so ... aren't there other cities? I've heard that there are other cities in this country, does only this city have guilds? Eh, then how would the adventurers survive?

” ... So the adventurers received the aftermath as well?”

“Yeah. It was different for those guys who have formed teams long ago and adventurers from other countries, but newly registered adventurers involuntarily faced differences that divided them into clear hierarchies.”

“Can you testify that in the Adventurer's Guild tomorrow?”

” ... Yeah, I'll bet my life on testifying. That's why I entrust that to you.”

I felt his resolution reflected somewhere within his eyes.

“Yeah. Eat this and wait for tomorrow.”

I passed him a bowl of bread and curry before returning to the 1st floor with Lionel while consulting with him what I should do.

“Was it thanks to Cathy that that guy became compliant?”

“I wonder? However, that expression didn’t look like he was lying.”

“Yeah. Tomorrow morning I will have the Priest Knights call over the guildmaster or vice-guildmaster. Also, that guy who is prepared to die might have a trick under his sleeve, so it would be best to maintain a barrier around the Healer’s Guild for the whole day tomorrow.”

I have no idea why there was such a commotion, but as long as we can overcome this obstacle, I have a premonition that the Healer’s Guild will be able to take root in Ienith.

The next morning, 3 Priest Knights carrying my letter left and quickly returned.

“That was fast, aren’t you all tired?”

The 3 of them were exhausted and could not talk about what happened in the 30 minutes they were gone.

Piazza-san replied as he recalled the situation.

“When we arrived at the Adventurer’s Guild, the guildmaster and vice-guildmaster were both present, but after reading Luciel-dono’s letter, they were considerably angry and chased us out from the guildmaster’s room. We have no choice but to return.”

Blitz-san joined the conversation.

“As we were exiting the guild, the beastmen that everyone healed yesterday caught us and told us.”

Dotasu-san summed it up.

“That the vice-guildmaster Jias-dono passed on a message telling us to wait at the Healer’s Guild, so we returned.”

“Thank you for your hard work. You’ve done all that you can, so please remain alert.”

『Yes!』

I muttered as I saw the 3 of them exit the Healer’s Guild guildmaster’s room.

“Dragonewt race, you better not come attacking.”

Lionel beside me grasped my shoulder and said.

“At times like this, move your body and don’t think about anything. Well then, I’ll be your opponent at the underground 4th floor.”

“Lionel just wants to fight right?”

“Because I’ve understood the reason why Whirlwind took a disciple.”

I became weak at the mention of Shisho’s name. It is true that with nothing I can do, it’s more efficient to train. I thought as I said to Lionel.

“Today will be the day I overcome your iron-clad shield.”

“Being reckless is the privilege of the young.”

Lionel replied with a laugh.

I decided to absolutely have my attack penetrate his defence and headed for the training ground.

It was a few hours later, around noon, that many beastmen

approached and drew near to the Healer's Guild.

Chapter 068: The First Step Towards Becoming A Supervisor From An Individual

I was lying ungracefully on the underground 4th floor of the Healer's Guild.

" ... What happened? Just when I thought that my attack reached, I was blown away. Although I do know that I was done in by that large shield ..."

Lionel lowered his large shield and shouldered his greatsword as he replied with a joyful smile.

"Until Luciel-dono's attack, I kept the shield close to my body. The moment you closed the distance to attack, I instantly thrust the shield, together with some footwork, towards Luciel-dono's direction, once again creating distance between us."

" ... But how is it possible to throw a person 5 meters just relying on a shield bash and footwork?"

Even though I was approximately near the center of the training ground ... I was blown about that distance away.

"It is all achievable with reading your opponent, timing and concentration."

The battle between Broad-shisho and Lionel must have been

terrific. As I had regrets about not being able to watch that fight, it felt like I had a concussion from the hit to my head since my feet were feeling shaky, so I applied 「Heal」 to my head before pointing my sword towards Lionel again ... but the Priest Knight Piazza's face appeared.

“What's the matter? Is there an attack?”

I asked, seeing the anxious expression on Piazza-san's face.

“It is not an attack, but many beastmen ... the Adventurer's Guild guildmasters are present as well, have gathered at the Healer's Guild.”

I could imagine that a considerable number of beastmen have congregated here judging from his anxious expression.

” ... It's pointless if I don't go address it huh.”

I muttered and Lionel nodded wordlessly. Although I didn't want to go, I hoped that this would be the conclusion of this matter as I rode the magic elevator.

The moment I stepped onto the 1st floor, I saw the figures of the brothers Jasuan and Jias as well as the beastmen.

The healers were inside the reception counter and expressions of relief floated across their faces when they saw me arrive. I was delighted knowing that they relied on my slightly.

Blitz-san, Dotasu-san and the criminal slaves were not holding on to weapons, but they formed a human barricade so that the beastmen could not enter the Healer's Guild in large numbers.

“Jasuan-dono and Jias-dono, what is the meaning of this?”

There was a single human and multiple beastmen forced to sit in front of them. There was one from each beast race among the beastmen sitting in front of them.

“You’ve come Luciel-dono. These guys are the culprits for this incident. This human is the person who handed out the bribes, the vice guildmaster of the Herbalist Guild, Gurohara.”

The man bound by rope appeared kind, it really is impossible to understand a person from just their outer appearances~. I thought as I listened to Jasuan-dono.

“From their lengthy dealings, the number of the Dragonewt and Tiger beastmen accomplices who received bribes is high. They were all tempted by these guys here. We will have the people who received bribes pay back the money stolen at a later date and we hope that the Healer's Guild accept that for compensation.”

... It's fine for me to tsukkomi right?

“Erm, that kind of content should only be decided after gathering the representatives right? Why is it that Jasuan-dono can make the

decisions?”

“It is the custom of us Dragonewts to devote our loyalty to Luciel-dono who obtained the blessing of the Dragon-sama race. Therefore, as compensation for the inconvenience the Dragonewt race has caused, we pledge to commit ourselves to make it such that the Ienith Healer’s Guild and healers can operate safely.”

... Is that the dragon’s oath that appears in Fantasy settings? Rather than that, was it due to the guidance from Great Luck-sensei that the Blessing from the Holy Dragon is useful here? ... The surrounding people were staring dumbfounded at me but I ignored them and asked how he found out about my blessing.

” ... How did you know that I possess the blessing?”

“The Dragonewt worships the Dragon-sama race. It is said that we Dragonewts were born from the Dragon-sama race, so all Dragonewts are capable of detecting the presence of the Dragon-sama race. That is why this guy is trembling at the thought of harming his own brethren.”

The Dragonewt kneeling on the ground was indeed trembling.

“So, we have caught all the men who caused the disturbance yesterday, but what are your plans for them?”

“Under Ienith’s laws, the mastermind will be executed as an example, and the accomplices will be converted into slaves. If the

punishment is set to be light, they can be made to pay for the compensation, but I hope that this time, the Adventurer's Guild can purchase the accomplices as personnel to advance the labyrinth capture."

"... Use and discard. Is that what you mean?"

I wasn't exactly hoping to rehabilitate everybody, but I guess it can't be done since this is the law of this country.

"I intend to lighten their charges if they capture the labyrinth and live. We will provide treatment when they dive into the labyrinth, but I predict that there will be unavoidable sacrifices due to them fighting at the forefront and disarming traps."

Jasuan-dono asserted.

"... I have a few conditions before handing them over to you, but I don't see the Ienith representative Shaza, where is he?"

"... Including him, the present representatives from various races and their close aides are missing."

Jasuan-dono said heavily, but I felt like I've actually heard those words somewhere before.

As I was thinking about that, I heard a voice from among the men that were forced to sit.

“I could give you some information regarding that? Could you loosen these ropes?”

“What!”

Jasuan-dono reacted to the request by the grinning Gurohara that said that.

However, looking at Gurohara, I was reminded that it is the common pattern in novels that there are not only 3 choices to choose from.

That reaction could either be from him hitting the nail on the head or that he was wrong.

I did not look at him pretending to be calm. I looked at Jasuan-dono and said.

“No, there is no need for that Jasuan-dono. His choices are, capturing the labyrinth, fleeing to other countries or hiding in nearby villages or caves and becoming thieves. That would happen eventually. Well, with his close aides gone as well, his choice would most likely be the labyrinth. This time, with his hired assailants not returning and most likely caught, he would surely be afraid of the truth coming to light and head there.”

“But it’s a labyrinth? It isn’t a place that he can break through easily.”

“I have no clue about the actual strength of the monsters in the labyrinth, so I can’t comment about that, but Shaza-dono is confident in his own combat abilities. So isn’t it possible that he thinks that he can break through the labyrinth? Maybe he intends to write off his crimes by being the hero that protected Ienith by breaking through the labyrinth or maybe he intends to bring whatever he obtains as a souvenir to another country. Right?”

Upon saying that, Gurohara’s smile froze.

Looks like somehow I made a lucky guess.

“What? If that’s the case, then it’s imperative that we immediately head for the labyrinth.”

Said Jasuan-dono as he turned to leave but he was stopped by Jias-dono.

“Wait, brother. Nothing will be resolved by just dragging the ringleader here. That will just cause an inconvenience to the Healer’s Guild.”

“Ununu, that’s right.”

Luckily Jias-dono was calm and composed.

“Brother please head to the labyrinth with Luciel-dono. I will

settle this matter with the healers here.”

“Ooo! As expected of my little brother. The right man for the job.”

“In exchange, do your best to catch him.”

“Leave it to me! Luciel-dono, let’s hurry.”

... I personally experience the fact that these 2 are brothers. Firstly, they don’t consider other people’s opinions. Next, they excitedly decide on the course of action. ... Seems like the Ienith Adventurer’s Guild have it rough. I clapped my hands together as the situation became noisy.

『Paan~』 The interior of the guild became quiet as the sound resonated within the guild.

I seized hold of the atmosphere during that momentary pause in the air, immediately began giving instructions to bring matters into my flow.

“That matter does take precedence, but I have no information about that labyrinth. Moreover, you wish to pass judgement onto them but are you capable of doing so immediately? Impossible right? Let us work on our priorities. Firstly, I entrust Jordo-san with taking the testimony of these criminals, slaves and the assailants housed underground.”

” ... Are you sure?” (Jordo-san)

“Yeah. Please convince me with a satisfactory job. You can do it right?”

“Yes!”

He replied after correcting his posture and holding his right hand to his chest. I observed him and spoke to Jias-dono.

“He will be in charge of handling the assailants and criminals. Please discuss it with him.”

“Ye, yes!”

Jias-dono bowed reverently.

“We will hold a strategy meeting on the 3rd floor, including examining the map of the labyrinth and listening to detailed reports of the monsters that appear in the labyrinth. The others, please purchase items that will come in handy for the labyrinth capture, such as food and MP potions, together with my Priest Knights. I leave this to you Blitz-san.”

“Yes!”

I passed him 3 white gold coins and instructed him to put a note on the large quantity of magic bags we bought when we departed

from the Holy City so that we know what is contained in each bag.

“Healers please remain in the Healer’s Guild and maintain operations. Dotasu-san will be in charge of their safety while I leave the guild’s defence to Piazza-san and the criminal slaves as usual.”

『Yes!』

“Please tell Naria, Dolan and Paula to come to the guildmaster’s room.”

“Certainly, master.”

“Lionel and Cathy please come along.”

“Yes!” “Yes nya.”

“And individuals who are knowledgeable regarding the labyrinth mentioned by Jasuan-dono earlier please come along too.”

I said all of that before moving to the guildmaster’s room on the 3rd floor.

I snatched the atmosphere all at one go without giving the dragonewt brothers and beastmen time to make a buzz.

However, the fact that it was settled that we had to head to the labyrinth was because I was too naive in dealing with the issues up until now.

It would be excusable for me to refrain from speaking out against a more senior party as an individual. But, I saw the expressions of relief on my subordinates faces when I came out from underground.

I reflected on my actions and was determined to act as a person in charge instead of an individual. I felt that it was not too late yet, which was why I performed that clap.

I didn't even listen to Jordo-san and other's opinion on the matter of slaves. However, if I acted naively as pointed out by Lionel there, I felt that they would no longer have faith in me.

Upon doing so, somehow my energy surged forth. I had to do what I have not been able to do up until now.

Although reports, communications and discussions gradually strengthened, I could not convey those feelings through commands and explanations. Without me understanding their feelings, they are only my subordinates in paper.

After knowing how they feel, I must show them how I handle this.

“However, maybe it is true that clapping your hands to pray to

god does have the effect of driving away misfortune.”

I muttered as I opened the door to the guildmaster’s room.

Chapter 069: Strategy Meeting And Onwards To The Labyrinth

Gathered within the Healer's Guild guildmaster's room were me, Lionel and my purchased slaves, and 3 beastmen including Jasuando.

"We will now begin the strategy meeting for the labyrinth capture led by the Adventurer's Guild. The goal of this meeting is not to discuss the capture of the labyrinth, but to capture Shaza promptly without incurring any injury. Well then, is there a map for the labyrinth?"

The bird beastman took out a bundle of parchments, but the maps were not drawn well so I had to verify the contents.

"Firstly, how wide is the labyrinth?"

"It begins with a 100 meter squared width. Every 10 floors the width expands by 50 meters squared and the monsters become stronger."

It might even be larger than the Labyrinth of Tribulations. ... Ah, I forgot.

"Is there miasma and how is the food condition?"

"We have mantles that can protect against the miasma. If you

don't have equipment like that, you can purchase medicine from the Herbalist Guild that can prevent the effects of miasma for a whole day. There is a supply of portable food rations for the labyrinth capture so there's no problem there."

That tasteless and flaky food huh ... I would cry eating that.

I continued drafting the plan after listening to the location of the traps from the vague maps.

After completing that section, I opened a monster encyclopedia and checked with them what monsters appear in the labyrinth. My tension dropped and a look of joy appeared on the faces of Lionel and Cathy.

Dolan and Paula were pretending to be standing by obediently at one side ... but I somehow knew that the 2 of them were thinking about how best to utilize the fire attribute magic stones dropped by the fire attribute monsters.

It seems like it might be a flame dragon this time~. Jasuan-dono opened his mouth to speak as I was thinking about that.

" ... Could we have Luciel-dono enter the labyrinth along with us?"

My thought process paused for a second, before restarting.

"Eh? Didn't I mention it to Jasuan-dono previously?"

“I thought for sure that you would only be following until the exterior of the labyrinth to establish the temporary healer clinic.”

“Why did you think so?”

” ... I imagined that those dwarves there are the construction personnel and these here are the escort slaves.”

” ... I am fine with that as well, or rather, I welcome that instead.”

It seemed like it would be fine even if I didn't enter? Nevertheless, I had a feeling that I must enter, so in the end, I planned to level up at upper floors.

“Please don't say that, we'll be in your care.”

While getting Jasuan who lowered his head once again to rise, I began choosing the personnel from the Healer's Guild to bring along to the labyrinth. An unexpected person voiced out.

“Master, please take me along with you.”

That's right, Naria curtsied by holding up her skirt slightly and bowed.

“I am fine with letting you come along, but as long as Lionel and

Cathy permit it. The 2 of them are strong but how about Naria?”

I asked Lionel and Cathy.

“No problems.”

“I’m in favor as long she has throwing daggers and a long whip.”

It seemed like there were no other problems. I originally wanted to assign her as the waitress for the Healer’s Guild, but it’s not like there would be any problems if I don’t do so.

“Thank you.”

As she bowed deeply this time, the dwarf-combi spoke out as well.

“Me too.” “Me too.”

Said the 2 of them as they leaned forward. I had intended to bring the 2 of them along from the start. I had a feeling that the Healer’s Guild would collapse if I left the 2 of them behind here.

” ... These are my orders. Don’t move about as you please, don’t make items of your own accord, don’t cause any troubles. Protect yourself. Ha~”

In the end, the members present were the ones chosen to go, forming a 6 member party huh.

Lionel will be the shield, Cathy the attacker, I will be the healer and support, Naria will be the crowd control and cook, and also the lookout if her perception is good. So what will Dolan and Paula be?

“How do the 2 of you fight?”

“I send monsters flying with a swing of my maul.”

Dolan crossed his arm and laughed.

“I’ll be fine because I have golems.”

Paula showed me her left arm, on it was a bracelet.

Hmm? Golem as in that golem?

“Golem as in those you can command and move?”

“Yup. Made from magic stones, they can be controlled by the magical power they recognize.”

In addition, upon asking for further details, it appears that Paula’s golem can be remote controlled using the bracelet and although only 1 golem can be controlled, it is apparently

abnormally strong. I assigned Dolan to be the rearguard while Paula will operate the golem beside me.

We would only reach the labyrinth around evening if we had set off then since it takes about an hour to reach the labyrinth located in the mountains, so we decided to head for the labyrinth early tomorrow morning instead.

“Well then, we will head for the Adventurer’s Guild tomorrow morning. The people below should have come to a settlement by now.”

“Yup. Even if they are to be carried to the slave dealer, rest assured, we will bear all the costs.”

I won’t have a peace of mind, but I’ll leave it in your hands.

I thought in my heart.

Something beyond our expectations was happening when we reached the first floor.

The beastmen were all missing. Only the criminal slaves and Jias-dono were present.

Jordo-san reported to the surprised me when I returned.

“Luciel-dono, we have decided to rent out the criminal slaves

present here and the assailants as our Healer's Guild's slaves."

That response was completely out of my expectations so, genuinely surprised, I immediately replied.

"Why?"

He showed a slight smile as he said.

"Thinking that since they are slaves, it would be fine even if they died, would damage the name of the Healer's Guild Church. In addition, apart from assigning the criminal slaves and assailants to protect the Healer's Guild, we let them resolve the troubles faced by this country using the Healer's Guild name. Doing so ought to raise the prestige and fame of the Healer's Guild. This time, we had all of them head for the labyrinth. The fees paid by the Adventurer's Guild for renting them is able to cover their meals and such. There was only 1 command. They must risk their life to protect Luciel-dono."

It would have been better to discuss this with them since the beginning. Looks like the one lacking the most in reporting, communicating and discussing is me.

"... Thank you. Tomorrow morning I, my slaves and the criminal slaves will visit the labyrinth. I've already informed the Pope, but I will be leaving the guild under Jordo-san's care when I'm absent."

"Yes! I will do my best."

“The security looks like it can kind of hold up with the 3 priest knights present, but do you want me to put in an escort request?”

“There is no need for that. The Dragonewts will defend this place to the death.”

Jias-dono said from the side.

“Is that okay?”

“Yes. I believe that the Dragon-sama race definitely anticipated today’s events. Please leave the defense of this place to me.”

I bowed to Jias-dono who hit his chest and said.

“Please protect the Healer’s Guild and its inhabitants.”

It was interesting to see Jias-dono get flustered with that, but for the sake of tomorrow’s preparations, we invited a slave dealer over to complete the procedure of converting the assailants locked underground into slaves.

It was the shop that refused to work with the Healer’s Guild before, but this time, the procedure was conducted for us at a bargain price.

And then, after everyone else had returned, I prepared the

equipment required for the labyrinth dive from tomorrow onward.

Since he even properly constructed the weapons for the slaves, they were extremely grateful towards Dolan. However, the leader of the assailants spoke out during dinner.

“I’ve fallen into slavery. But, I never imagined that I can live a life of slavery with such good treatment. Thank you.”

The man only said that before keeping quiet.

I did not feel sorry for the man. However, to make sure that they do not perish in the labyrinth, I’ve decided to work hard.

The next morning, the large family of all 27 members of team Healer’s Guild headed towards the Adventurer’s Guild, linking up with the close to 50 adventurers before proceeding onwards to the labyrinth.

When we arrived at the Adventurer’s Guild, I asked for a certain something.

The dragonewt brothers gave it to me politely while saying “Here, here, feel free to take it.”

As such, I was no longer feeling gloomy and sat on the back of Fornoir, enjoying horse riding after such a long time.

Chapter 070: Dwarf-Combi Combat Strength

The squad swelled up to about 80 members and we decided to act separately in different groups.

Firstly, Jasuan's attack group will advance forward,

a group will make a base right before the boss room on the 30th floor,

a group will stand by outside,

and my group will advance from the first floor in sequence.

It's not because I don't trust the map drawn by the bird beastman yesterday, I just thought that they may have overlooked some things ... only about 30 percent.

I searched the Labyrinth of Tribulations alone and it took quite some time to investigate a single floor.

This time, our goal was to use a human wave formation to check the map's accuracy and to secure magic stones.

That's because when I asked Paula and Dolan about the amount of magic stones required for the item I wish to be constructed, I found out that even just for fire attribute magic stone, I would

need a considerable number of it.

“That’s the entrance to the labyrinth.”

Jasuan’s voice interrupted my thoughts. Looking forward, the entrance was located below the cliff of a mountain. I noticed something at that point in time.

“This labyrinth extends upwards instead of downwards?”

“That’s right. The fact that the heat increases as you climb upwards is another troublesome detail.”

” There wasn’t ... any reports on that yesterday?”

“Is that so? Rather than that, is it really okay for us to advance ahead?”

Getting angry now would damage the atmosphere and would be detrimental.

I considered that and continued the conversation.

“It is fine for you to go on ahead. I’ll leave it up to Jasuan-dono if you want to rest at the 40th floor boss room, to advance carefully to not fall into any traps or to grind levels before and after the 40th floor.”

“Understood. I look forward to Luciel-dono and group catching up to us.”

“Well, we’ll try our best.”

Immediately after that conversation, we arrived at the installation location for the base camp at the labyrinth entrance.

“Men, this time, Luciel-dono will be chasing after us from below. There is a possibility you will survive if you are afflicted by petrification, deadly poison or confusion. The goal will be to capture Shaza and his group, but if we have the chance, we will try to capture the labyrinth as well.”

Jasuan-dono announced and punched his fist into the sky.

The next moment, 『Ooooooh!』 a wild roar resounded around the area.

I was also asked to say a few words but I respectfully declined.

“Well then, we will be proceeding ahead. See you later.”

“Yes. I wish you the fortunes of war.”

I sent them off and headed to the area where Fornoir and the horses were kept, casting purification magic on them.

I gently stroked Fornoir's neck and his eyes felt like it was telling me "Good luck!"

"I'll try my best."

I said before handing the Fornoir and the horses to the beastmen staying behind to look after them.

Apart from my party, all the other parties were made up by the slaves.

It's like parties commonly found in the other world novels ... But something is different! I thought as I declared to everyone.

"I will definitely save you if you have healable injuries or abnormal statuses. Hence, do not act excessively or recklessly! This is an order!"

I surveyed everybody's faces as I enforced my motto on to them.

"I will convey the priorities. 1. Don't die. 2. Secure magic stones. 3. Secure Shaza. 4. ... It's fine if it can't be done but try to capture the labyrinth. Everyone come back alive, okay?"

"Ooh!" "Nya." "Yes!" "Yes." I smiled bitterly at the disorganized replies before entering the labyrinth.

"It's quite bright after all."

I murmured and Dolan spoke out.

“I heard that if you take the labyrinth’s core, the activity will stop and the ambient light will dim. It’s like the labyrinth’s heart.”

“If we don’t retrieve the labyrinth’s core?”

“After defeating the final boss for the labyrinth? According to literature, it will return after a long time.”

So the Labyrinth of Tribulations would return to how it was someday? That was not something I should consider now so I switched gears and gave out instructions.

“Lionel and gang will standby around me. Kefin squad, Yarubo squad, and Baderu squad will advance according to the routes in the map, annihilating monsters and verifying the map’s completeness, before gathering in front of the ascending stairs.”

“Yes!”

They all replied after I finished giving my commands. I copied the maps drawn yesterday before handing those to them.

After making 4 sets including one for myself, my arm ... was fine but it was tired.

After I applied 「Area Barrier」 on the 3 squads, they advanced along the routes that were decided on yesterday.

“Luciel-dono, when would it be our turn?”

Lionel asked worriedly so I answered properly.

“You guys will have a chance to enter combat when the number of monsters increases and there are many empty spaces before the 30th floor so your turn will come soon. Well then, let’s go. I’ll leave the monsters to you all.”

“Yes!”

Seeing the sight of Lionel walking off ahead looking happy, I sympathized with the trouble the subordinates of this combat maniac have to go through.

It’s a secret that I had to stifle my laughter looking at Lionel’s disappointed expression when he realized that the monsters were already annihilated by the group that went down the path we were on before us.

After spending less than 10 minutes, we joined up with the 3 squads without anything significant happening. As we ascended to the 2nd floor, I asked about the monsters that appeared.

“Is it according to the reports?”

“Yes. There are no problems with the map and the monsters are Red Rats.”

The ex-assailant leader Kefin replied. He was more outstanding than I had expected.

I wondered why they ... Those kinds of thoughts floated in my mind, but I knew that it was due to the environment they grew up in and the reality of unequal rights, so I held my tongue.

It looked like 「Area Barrier」 lasted for a whole level without a problem, so from then on, I applied 「Area Barrier」 on the party at each level as we advanced, finally arriving at the 10th floor boss room after about 90 minutes.

“According to the reports, Red Lizardmen should have appeared as well, but this time, it looks like there are only Red Snakes, Red Bats and Red Rats so let's breakthrough in one go.”

When the Kefin squad opened the door and we passed through, we saw a group of monsters centered around Red Snakes, but we opened the opposite door within minutes.

Each of their combat potential was strong, their annihilating speed was fast and Naria threw daggers at the Red Bats dangling from the ceiling, dropping them one after another. It was impressive.

“Naria, are your main attacks centered around middle range distance?”

“No, the insignificant me is only throwing the daggers. I have plenty of better attacks.”

Naria laughed.

After that, we didn't face any struggles as we advanced. In front of the 20th floor boss room, I announced to them.

“We will be having a meal and rest break after annihilating the enemies in this boss room so psyche yourselves up.”

『Oooh!』

The atmosphere became a great deal better. Lionel and Cathy had gradually more combat with monsters so they looked like they were having fun.

However, the 2 member dwarf-combi were instead discussing various things.

There was no telling what would happen, so I told them to prepare for battle and they acknowledged.

What appeared when we opened the door were Red Orcs and Red Wolves, but Dolan touched the ground and Paula made a stance,

causing a 5 meter Golem to appear.

The golem that totally looked like a super robot shocked all of us. The golem surprisingly flew towards the Red Orc and kicked it, before chasing after the prone Red Orc and releasing a jumping elbow, causing it to turn into magic stones.

The Red Wolves were defeated by Cathy without me being aware of it, but we could only stare dumbfounded at the strong impact caused by the golem.

The dwarf-combi high-fived and looked satisfied.

” ... Is that normal?”

” ... I have never seen a golem move so smoothly before.”

Lionel was extremely surprised.

“Dolan, Paula, how do you ... no, is that a golem?”

“It’s a collaboration with grandfather.”

“I can’t control it so I make an imitation of it and Paula controls it. However, the size of the golem changes depending on the magical power within the bracelet Paula is wearing.”

He said as he repeatedly glanced at me, hinting at asking for more magic stones.

” ... How many magic stones do you need to summon that? Answer me honestly. That’s an order.”

The dwarf-combi had looks of regret as Paula replied.

“Putting together the magic stones that we’ve obtained here, we can easily build 20 of them. But they would be useless unless slightly more stones are used to extend their time limit.”

Although they always cause problems, when it comes to production and combat with their strengths combined, this dwarf-combi is outrageous.

I thought as I passed my instructions to them for the use of magic stones for golems.

The 2 of them looked unsatisfied, but they were brimming with motivation after the next sentence.

“This is not a playground. If you 2 do what I tell you to do and once the labyrinth search is over, I promise to give you the secured magic stones for production use. Which is why, work hard and strictly adhere to my commands.”

“Leave it to me.”

“I’ll do my best.”

I nodded as I purified the room before I began preparations for our meal together with Naria.

Chapter 071: Capture That Went Too Smoothly

After our meal, I retrieved the maps, from a beastman of each respective squad, that I had requested to have drawn.

I retrieved a table and chair from my magic bag and drew an easy-to-understand map.

Yesterday, I selected a few members who could draw maps and had them draw maps the same way as me. I recorded down whatever differences or variations I saw in the copied maps I retrieved.

There were traps as well but they were safely disarmed. However, I was surprised because even the type of traps was noted down.

By the time I had finished consolidating all the maps, they have all had plenty of rest and were already ready and waiting for me.

I stored the table and chair in my magic bag and spoke out.

“Thank you for your hard work this morning. We will now aim for the 30th floor. There will be more traps from here on out and the monsters will become stronger so safety first and let’s reach the 30th floor by today~!”

『Yes!』

Even though the voices were disorganized, the uniform reply made it not as disorganized. As I had that thought, I applied 「Area Barrier」 on all the squads before setting off.

Beginning from the 21st floor, the Red XX named monsters became Fire XX monsters.

Fire attribute monsters like Fire Rats, Fire Snakes, Fire Bats and Fire Rabbits began appearing.

They are supposed to be formidable enemies that are clad in fire, use fire magic or fire breaths, but the labyrinth capture proceeded smoothly.

There are traps and the monsters are supposed to be stronger, but each floor takes only about 30 minutes to advance through.

“Is it okay to advance at such a quick pace?”

I did say that it was fine to go a bit crazy, but aren't we getting carried away?

“I'll tell you this, those 2 escorts are abnormally strong and we are not so weak as well.”

Said the assailant leader Kefin.

Despite being a beastman, as a halfling, he had little authority in the organization, but he desperately trained in combat skills and thievery skills and managed to gather together such a group.

“Moreover, this time, even if we screw up slightly, we can be healed as long as we are alive.”

Kefin said with laughter and led his squad in tow.

” ... Because of Luciel-dono’s strong barrier magic, even if we receive any attack, it would only be to the extent of getting grazed, so I think they also know that they are not going to be used and thrown away.”

Lionel added and walked ahead.

Since entering the labyrinth, other than casting 「Area Barrier」 and a couple of 「Heal」, I have not done anything. I have not even defeated any monsters. I merely recovered the magic stones collected by each of the squads at the end of each floor.

The interior of the labyrinth was gradually getting warmer, but I haven’t had any problem due to my equipment.

I had complex feelings at the moment because I was not feeling any stress currently, compared to the time I’ve had since arriving at Ienith, as we advanced deeper into the labyrinth.

“I see it! That seems to be the 30th floor boss room, since the base is located in front of it.”

Prompted by Lionel’s voice, I looked forward intently and saw that there were indeed people gathered there.

“However, why didn’t they wait within the boss room? It should be safer there right?”

“I’ll ask them for the details.”

“Okay. I will start treatment if there are any injured individuals, if not, I’ll begin preparing food. We might have to raid the boss room depending on the situation, so I intend to have plenty of food and rest to recover our strength for tomorrow’s exploration.”

Not only to Lionel, I said it to the surrounding others as well and we all arrived at the base.

“Are there any injured people or those with abnormal statuses? Don’t reserve yourself and call out even if it is mild. If there are multiple injured, I will chant an 「Area Heal」 to heal everybody.”

There were about 15 members in the base, but some of them had injuries so I treated them. As I once again realize that my slaves have greater proficiency, Lionel’s poked his face in.

“Apparently it differs among labyrinths, but as long as somebody is within a boss room, the door to go back in the boss room of other

floors do not open. Seems like this is basic manners taught within the Adventurer's Guild."

The instant I heard that, I recalled the incident that happened to me on the 40th floor in the Labyrinth of Tribulations where I could not return.

Due to that, I only gave Lionel a half-hearted "Ah" reply.

If only I listened properly when I was registering in Meratoni's Adventurer's Guild, I might have been able to return after my battle with the Specter Knight King.

I could infer that it was definitely because the Valkyrie Paladin Corps dived in to rescue me that I could not open the door.

However, I put a stop to my negative thinking at this point.

Such misfortune despite the presence of Great Luck-sensei? ... Impossible.

I bet that it was because I cannot break through the labyrinth without clearing that section.

I apologized to the worried people around me for spacing out as I endured the feeling of wanting some restful sleep. We spent a night at that base ... Or not.

Kefin and squad advised quietly that it would be better to rest in the 30th floor boss room.

“S-rank-sama, we should rest within.”

The other slaves also gave the same recommendation.

I felt that the eyes of each and every one of them showed concern and worry for impending danger.

“Understood.”

“Sorry but we will be resting inside. After getting a few hours of sleep we will be advancing forward so I’m sorry but we’ll be entering.”

I said as Lionel and others entered the 30th floor boss room.

I cast 「Area Barrier」 roughly around the same time as we entered and asked.

“I trust you all have a reason for this?”

“Yeah. They are the type of adventurers with ill behaviours so we usually avoid them. The truth is, they are the labyrinth clean up squad. They try to get closer to you and either mix poison into your food or gather monsters using monster baiting drugs.”

” ... Isn’t that illegal?”

“Anything can happen within a labyrinth.”

Said Kefin.

” ... Ha~. Let’s quickly defeat it, have our dinner and get some sleep.”

『Yes!』

The 30th floor boss room was made up of a Fire Bear, 5 Fire Wolves and 3 Fire Birds, but as expected the combat ended immediately.

Lionel led the battle, smiling as he stopped the strong arm attack from the Fire Bear with his large shield, before using his greatsword to bisect it into 2. Cathy weakened the herd of Fire Wolves by hit-and-run tactics and Naria dropped the Fire Birds using her throwing daggers.

At that point, Kefin and the slaves cooperated with them and dealt the final blows.

Multiple members had light burn wounds, but we didn’t face any trouble at all.

After applying purification to the boss room and having our

meal, I let everyone pass their time whichever way they wanted.

Dolan and Paula inspected weapons and armour, Cathy and Naria prepared tomorrow's meal, while Lionel chatted with the slaves.

After I finished drawing the maps, I announced that there were no issues and practiced some magic training before sleeping using the Angel's Pillow.

“Asleep huh. What a seriously nonsensical healer.”

Said Lionel as he laughed.

“Old man, you are this S-rank's slave right?”

Asked Kefin.

“Yeah. Although it slips my mind sometimes.”

“So the S-rank really does treat the slaves that naively after all?”

“That's right. He feeds us, gives us satisfactory equipment and doesn't make us do unreasonable tasks.”

“I've never dreamed that he would tell us to come back alive.”

Kefin laughed and the surrounding slaves began laughing as well.

“Old man, you are a military personnel right? Moreover one of considerable standing.”

“Hou. Why do you think so?”

“Because you act while grasping the movement of the whole troop during combat. That’s something ingrained. Well, apart from when you were fighting with the Fire Bear.”

“Because there was a need to test to what extent the barrier could function.”

” ... That magic is abnormal. Even after receiving an attack that would originally cause a deep wound, all I got was a slight scratch.”

Kefin touched his body and replied.

“Don’t be reckless. Desperately sharpen your fangs. If you do that, I’m sure Luciel-dono would not forsake you all.”

“What about you old man? You look like you have an ambition within your heart.”

When Kefin asked that, Lionel answered with a laugh.

“It is my long-cherished ambition to live as a warrior. To me, it is agonizing to have to stand above others.” (TL: ie. to command

others)

“Old man, if you actively tried, you can release yourself from slavery right?”

“Luciel-sama’s enemies are not limited to those this time. He would surely get caught up in other incidents. It would be amusing to have a bout with strong individuals that he comes across. Moreover, S-rank healer-sama’s legend would be told one day. When that day comes, it would be a warrior’s honour to be enshrined as the strongest fighter that supported him.”

Lionel stifled his laughter.

Looking at Lionel act that way, Kefin continued watching Lionel, envious of a certain aspect.

Chapter 072: Missing Advance Party, Capture Meeting To Ensure Safety

When I woke up, almost all the others were still asleep. Looking at that, I began stretching and thought about what I should do with the criminal slaves.

I think that their abilities are pretty excellent.

Although they do not stand out like Lionel and others, the whole organization display exceedingly high level of cooperation by working together.

Once the Healer's Guild is rebuilt and the Ienith healer clinic is established, I would be able to journey out.

When that happens, I feel like it would be a waste to keep them there at Ienith's Healer's Guild.

" ... As might be expected, it would be difficult to bring all of them along, but I wonder if I have any way to do so~."

I murmured as I began my magic training after my stretches, but Naria woke up before I could start so we made breakfast together.

I considered who to bring along for my future journey.

After having our breakfast and confirming every squad's

condition, I announced today's goal.

“From here on it will be the labyrinth that has activated. Monsters like Fire Lizardman and Fire Bear have been reported to appear. It should take longer to search compared to yesterday but that's fine. We will aim for the 40th floor but today as well we will carefully advance with safety as our priority!”

『Yes!』

After applying 「Area Barrier」 on each squad, I added.

“If the monsters become too strong and searching becomes difficult, I will have to consolidate the squads. I believe the traps will become more heinous so do earnestly take note of your surroundings.”

Kefin and others were momentarily baffled but began laughing soon after.

” ... Did I say something funny?”

“No, we're just happy that you worry for us. Because if there are more people that are like you S-rank-sama, I believe slaves like us would be able to live a bit easier.”

Kefin and others grinned as they set off to explore the 31st floor.

I thought that I would be angered by that, but for some reason, I could not get angry with that smile.

As I sighed, I applied 「Area Barrier」 on my group as well and began searching.

“So hot~.”

Judging by my body sensation, the temperature had rose by about 10 degrees. It wasn't the heat like being shined upon by the sun, but more like the heat from moving close to a stove.

“It would be good to diligently drink fluids. Don't refrain and call out to me if you all want to have a water break.”

I said to Lionel and group. Due to my temperature regulating equipment, I only felt the heat on my face, but their whole body was subjected to that heat so it should be unbearable.

As the labyrinth floor spanned 400 square meters and was made up of nothing but branches in paths, we proceeded while waiting for each other. We gradually filled in the map as we advanced, but although our speed had not changed, we gradually had more members injured with burns and scratches.

However, after casting 「Area Heal」, they happily embarked on further exploration.

“I somehow feel like I'm doing a devil's deed, is this really fine?”

“I also want to explore like them.”

“I also want to go nya! It would definitely be double the fun nya!”

Said the combat maniac-combi.

Their wish will definitely come true. Since there isn't a map from the 40th floor onward.

I advanced through the labyrinth without saying that.

Although it took an hour to climb a single floor, I took a full day to circle a floor in the Labyrinth of Tribulation, so I realized the effectiveness of a human wave technique on a labyrinth.

We had our lunch in front of the stairs leading up to the 36th floor. To keep the monsters away, I slightly opened the lid on the barrel of Object X before returning to the place everyone else was, upon which they looked at me with puzzled expressions.

” ... Even though that is fine to drink, I did not place it there for others to drink. Doing so would keep monsters at bay. That's why there's no need for lookouts. I did it because it's more effective for all of us to rest all at once.”

Upon saying that, everyone looked astonished at the barrel of Object X.

When I was cooking, when we were eating and even when we were resting after our meal, they looked in the direction of the barrel the whole time.

When monsters did indeed not come close, it looked like they had changed their perception of Object X due to Object X's greatness.

However, what do they think about me who can drink Object X with a composed expression when it is even avoided by monsters? I did not have the courage to ask that.

Just like yesterday, I retrieved the maps from each of the squads and filled in the blank area, discovering that it was once again filled with an abundance of traps.

“Is it fine to continue advancing forward with it being like this?”

When I asked the leader of each squad that, Kefin answered as the representative.

“It can be done up until the 40th floor. However for advancing beyond that, to be safe, with our abilities we would need to increase our numbers.”

After saying that, Kefin and the others all revealed a face of frustration.

“Is that so ... understood. Well then, I will reorganize the squads from 3 squads into 2.”

After saying so, they had a look of surprise, but that was my intention since the beginning.

” ... It can be done up until the 40th floor.”

I felt that Kefin had a tinge of anger in his words, but I answered while smiling.

“I assume that you all would not be able to cooperate well if I reorganize the squads upon arriving at the 40th floor. It’s not that I don’t trust you, I just wish to avoid pointlessly facing tough battles. Moreover, it’s been a long time since I’ve had stress-free days. Please let me enjoy it a little more.”

I don’t know how much my excuse convinced them, but they looked at me with eyes filled with pity and agreed.

I filled in the blank spaces in the maps until the 40th floor, but we did not find a single treasure box.

I don’t know if they have already been collected or that we would not encounter a treasure box even if we enter a new floor, but we arrived at the 40th floor boss room.

“They’re not here huh.”

“Yeah. I guess they went ahead.”

“Maybe they’ve already found them nya.”

“... Is there a high chance of that happening?”

I thought that they would be here by the time we arrived here, but Jasuan-dono and group were nowhere to be seen. Lionel and Cathy heard my mutterings and gave their respective replies which matched my thoughts.

“We’ll rest after we’ve annihilated the monsters in the boss room. From tomorrow onward, depending on the situation above, we will set our base here and search for Jasuan-dono and group as we advance.

“Understood.”

Lionel bowed and Cathy followed suit.

The 40th floor boss was not the Chimera that Jasuan-dono fought, but 5 Sabertooth Tigers clad in flames.

They were extremely fast and had very strong offensive power, but Lionel blew them away with his large shield and Cathy and the others attacked together in one swoop to finish them.

When I was casting 「Heal」 on the criminal slaves remotely, Naria restrained the monster that was approaching me while Dolan held his maul and Paula created a 3 meter Golem to protect me.

It would have normally been a tough battle, but today it ended within a few minutes as well, causing me to experience a sense of reliability as I applied 「Purification」 and 「Area High Heal」 to heal everyone at one go, before beginning to prepare dinner.

The dinner passed with a relaxed mood as I praised each of them for the well-fought battle, causing them to get excited.

After I had dinner together with everyone and finished drawing the maps, I began a labyrinth capture meeting with the leaders of each squad, Kefin, Yarubo, Baderu and Lionel.

“Well then, let’s begin the meeting. I expect the monsters to get stronger and the labyrinth to widen when we enter the 40th floor tomorrow. Please suggest how we should advance upwards.”

“I’ll start.”

Lionel raised his hand and announced, asking for permission and I nodded.

“I believe the plan is to proceed with 3 squads from tomorrow onwards, but I wish to reorganize the search party such that Cathy and I join separate squads and the remaining squad will be made up of the bodyguards for Luciel-dono.”

After Lionel said that a voice of dissent sounded out.

“Old man, we will be able to somehow fight if our number increases!”

Kefin exclaimed and I felt slightly uneasy due to the increased danger from the lack of those 2 members, but I took into consideration the most efficient choice.

” ... It’s so that the search will be more efficient and even if we suffer injuries, it would reduce the probability of death right?”

“Yes. If the monsters that regularly appear on the upper floor stalks the floor, it would be good if we only get injured, but it is also conceivable that we face instant death.”

“Guh.”

Kefin had a sour face after hearing that and looked downwards. Looks like he is, at least, aware of his own abilities.

“If Luciel-dono gets attacked, as long as you continue healing them, they should be able to act as a shield. There’s a Golem as well so it wouldn’t be that dangerous.”

“I can somehow make do if there’re enough magic stones.”

Paula grasped her hands and said.

I recalled a certain individual from my previous life, but I immediately shook my head and accepted that suggestion.

” ... Understood. I will entrust the reorganization of the squad to you. Next, we’ll have to discuss measures against the heat and about the search, but we’ll tackle the heat measures first. Can you create a magic tool to combat the heat?”

“I can. But is there a need for it?”

Paula tilted her head.

“We’re accustomed to heat so we can’t sense any difference.”

Dolan replied in afterthought. If that’s the case, then does it mean they are weak to cold? I wondered in my mind but I looked around and the others also replied that it was not needed.

“Is that so. However, if you sweat then do replenish with liquids. Next, it would change depending on the labyrinth capture situation, but I think we should limit ourselves to 5 floors a day. Judging by each squad’s level of exhaustion, I don’t mind if we even search a floor a day. Any objections?”

Nobody raised any objections.

“Dolan and Paula will check on the ruined equipment. Later, please discuss formations etc. with your respective squads.”

『Yes!』

After the meeting ended, I performed some magical manipulation training as I muttered grudgingly for the fact that I recalled that I took a hundred times longer to reach the 40th floor of the Labyrinth of Tribulations.

“If that’s the case ... No, it’s just because we’ve been lucky. Continuing to progress in such a good manner indefinitely would be doub...” (TL: He basically stops himself so that he doesn’t jinx it.)

I stopped myself from speaking any further as I prayed to the Gods and my ancestors that the exploration tomorrow proceeds safely as well.

Chapter 073: Information On Another Reincarnated Individual And The Labyrinth Treasure Chest

We were shocked when we climbed up to the 41st floor. Firstly, the temperature in the labyrinth dropped.

Due to that, we no longer needed the heat insulating magic tools that we made yesterday and we could have saved those magic stones.

Considering that we might fall into a situation whereby they have to immediately use the magic stones, I entrusted them to Paula and Dolan just in case, but it seems like the magic stones would be used for Golem-sama.

“Well then, Kefin squad will be my escort. I’ve been wanting to ask this since a long time ago, you disappeared in the Adventurer’s Guild right? How did you do it?”

I was absolutely curious about the body replacement Ninjutsu technique seemingly from the manga world.

” ... It is said to be called Ninjutsu?”

Was this also from a reincarnated individual? I’ll investigate further.

“Why did you answer like you are unsure? Is that Ninjutsu a skill?”

“Yes. Previously, a man arrived at Ienith and he was tattered and penniless. However, he could erase the sound of his footsteps, show us illusions that appear at where there wasn't anything before, and even though he should have been a human male, he could alter his looks to look like a beastman.”

Most likely his skill gradually leveled up.

“I thought that our work would be easier with his ability so my organization hired him. From then on he taught us Ninjutsu, but one day, he died in this labyrinth.”

“?! How did that happen?”

“I've told you about those guys on the 30th floor, most likely it was the work of those guys.”

“He may have died in the labyrinth without even his body remaining, but there is also a possibility that he is still alive right?”

“No, among the guys who explored the labyrinth together with him, only 2 came back, but those 2 also died the next day. There's no doubt that the 2 of them were assassinated when they were on the verge of dying.”

..... It's not confirmed that he was a reincarnated individual.

Calm down. I didn't think that I would be so unsettled from hearing about a total stranger die.

"... When did this happen? And what was his name?"

"About 2 years ago. He was about the same age as S-rank-sama. I don't know if he was lying or not but he called himself Hattori."

... It can't be helped even if I think about it now. But, Ninjutsu huh ... I wonder if I can learn that as well?

"Can I learn that skill as well?"

"... Yes, but I would like to have a request if I am to teach you. I know that this deviates from my slave social standing but ..."

"I'll hear you out for now. So don't ease your battle posture. It's dangerous so keep an eye out for your surroundings as you speak."

"... Sorry. I hope that S-rank-sama could take me with you when you go on a journey. I don't care even if I remain a slave for life."

Said Kefin as he bowed once again and faced forward.

"... It's a distant future before I set off for a journey. Well, I'll keep it in mind."

Kefin's ears perked up with a 『Pin』. I don't know if he was nervous or happy but he looked like he was pumped.

After that, 2 Fire Bears and a Fire Sabretooth Tiger appeared, but as Paula's Golem pressed the 2 Fire Bears, 7 criminal slaves performed a cooperation attack towards the Fire Sabretooth Tiger and they defeated it without receiving any injuries.

The Golem manipulated by Paula grabbed the 2 Fire Bears with each of its hand and constricted them with a bear hug, turning them into magic stones.

From that fatherly gag-like action, I felt like I was gradually getting to know Paula's personality better. However, I'll first heal and give words of appreciation to Kefin and the others.

“You guys are cooperating well even at the 40th floors.”

I said as I re-applied 「Area Barrier」after completely healing all of them with a 「Area Middle Heal」. They gave me complicated expressions but Kefin replied with a single word.

” ... We'll work hard.”

I had Paula hold on to the 2 magic stones from the Fire Bear while I kept the magic stone from the Fire Sabretooth Tiger in my magic bag.

After that, we finally finished exploring the 500 square meter

41st floor after 2 hours of walking through innumerable branches in the paths.

“How is everyone’s condition? Are you guys able to continue exploring?”

I questioned Lionel, Cathy, and Kefin and they determined that they could.

The exploration party only had minor scratches so they were certainly fine.

Stepping foot onto the 42nd floor, we encountered our first treasure chest.

Just before we finished exploring the 42nd floor, Cathy’s squad discovered the treasure chest and called out.

“Master, there’s a treasure chest nya! I want you to open it nya.”

“Why do you want me to open it?”

Cathy’s squad’s Baderu answered.

“The treasure in a labyrinth changes depending on the person who opens it. Although you must remove the traps, but the contents depend on the luck of the person opening it.”

“That’s something I heard for the first time. Well, let’s do it after we join up with Lionel’s party.”

We joined up with Lionel’s group 10 minutes later and headed to the room where Cathy’s squad found the treasure chest before I opened the treasure chest.

What appeared was ?

” ... What is this?”

It was a non-transparent scarlet bead.

Just in case, I held it after applying purification magic, but even after channelling magic through it, I had absolutely no idea what it was.

The dwarf-combi stared wide eyed at it stiffly, but I determined that it was not something that could be used at that moment so I stored it in my magic bag.

“Unfortunately, it was not a magic book or equipment. That’s right. Just in time, maybe we should have slightly earlier lunch.”

I announced and we had lunch. During lunch, I enquired Dolan and Paula about what that item was and it was unexpectedly something that made me grin.

Even after moving through the 43rd floor and reaching the 44th floor, we absolutely did not see any signs of people. Lionel muttered a word.

” ... This might be bad.”

I picked that up as I was close to him.

“What’s bad? Is it because the labyrinth is difficult to capture? Or are strong enemies going to appear?”

Lionel turned to face me and answered.

” ... I was considering the worst. It’s fine if we are merely chasing after them, but if we handle it poorly there is a chance the whole party gets wiped out ...”

” ... What do you mean?”

“Today is the 3rd day for our labyrinth capture, but we are still advancing too blindly. It’s not recommended to continue pushing into unknown territory like the 40th floors. In addition ... we don’t even know about the combat abilities of the entourage including Shaza in the first place.”

“Do you mean that I’ve been led here but Shaza is not present?”

“No, he should be here. At the labyrinth entrance, there were a

number of horse footprints. From what I've heard from Jasuando, the adventurers do not come to the labyrinth by horse. That's why I think that he is present but ..."

" ... Then, let's return to the 40th floor. It is about an hour's distance from here right? So it doesn't make much difference if we rest here or we rest on the 40th floor?"

Certainly, sending for help is a viable choice but that is not of importance to me.

What's important is my life and their lives.

It feels weird but I think that it's wrong to put their lives on the balance to go save them. (TL: I take it that the 'them' refers to the advance party?)

In the end, they followed me to occupy the 40th floor boss room. There were fewer conversations as we preserved our strength for the exploration tomorrow.

The next day, everyone woke up early.

As I had my breakfast, I was fraught with emotions as they had decided to go to such lengths for the sake of the adventurers.

"We will proceed as a single group until the 45th floor, but stay sharp and advance!"

『Yes!』

Within an hour, we arrived at the point we turned back, but we still did not meet anyone.

Even after we finished exploring the 45th, 46th, and 47th floor, we still had not seen any traces of Jasuan-dono and group.

“In the end, today’s only harvest is that bracelet.”

Earlier, when exploring the 47th floor, we discovered a second treasure chest and upon opening it I found a bracelet. But in the end, I had no idea what it was so I stored it in my magic bag.

“I’d like to discuss with you all. Do we proceed on to another floor? Or do we leave it for tomorrow?”

” ... On the whole, they don’t look physically or mentally tired.”

“We’re not hungry yet either nya.”

“S-rank-sama, we are fine even if we don’t sleep for 2 or 3 days. Of course, please spare us from doing so before the 50th floor boss, but we are able to do continue up until that 50th floor boss room.”

Lionel, Cathy, and Kefin continued one after the other and the others didn’t seem to have any problems either.

“Okay. We’ll advance then. However, I’ve said it many times but have safety as your priority.”

Thus, we advanced up to the 48th floor and finally discovered the advance party.

Chapter 074: The Feeling Of Wanting To Escape And The Feeling Of Wanting To Save

We were just about to finish exploring the 48th floor without any result. However, Kefin suddenly cried out.

“There’s somebody getting surrounded by monsters!”

I looked over to confirm and saw a figure within a swarm of monsters ahead.

” ... Wait.”

I called out for everyone to wait as I had an uncomfortable feeling.

“Why ... ?”

Please stop with those gazes like you’ve misjudged me.

“Look properly. It’s clearly suspicious. Although those are monsters that appear on this floor, I don’t know if it’s due to a mutation or it’s a different type but the body color is different. Moreover, they are just being playful.”

Everyone kept silent and began confirming that that was a fact.

“I don’t know if it is an enemy or ally so let’s approach closer after we’ve joined up with the others.”

The monsters continued playing around for 20 minutes after I announced that.

“That’s strange.”

“That is clearly something that we’re mistaken about nya.”

“Let’s advance with maximum vigilance.”

After applying 「Area Barrier」, it was time to approach the monster herd ahead.

“Ah, Healer-oniichan.”

Surprisingly, Shiela-chan appeared from within the monsters!

“Eeh!? Shiela-chan? You came alone?”

“Yup. I came here together with Papa and the others but he said that there are a lot of people chasing them so it’s dangerous and asked me to hide ...”

Ah, this looks like a pattern where I make her cry.

“Is that so. Well, would you like to chase after your father together with us?”

“Eh? Is it okay?”

“I can’t leave you alone here after all. Nevertheless, are those surrounding monsters your friends?”

“Yup. I could not speak when I was small so Papa brought these children over for me.”

She looked delighted when she said that but she didn’t bring them along when she came to the Holy City and they weren’t with her when she came to welcome us?

“But they weren’t with you before?”

“Yup. I was told that there are people within the church that would hurt my friends so I could not bring them.”

” ... Ah, I see. Could Shiela-chan make your friends not hurt us?”

“Sure. Gimme a moment.”

Shiela-chan gestured repeatedly to frantically appeal to the monsters.

And seems to have somehow secured our safety.

“It’s alright now.”

“Is that so. Thank you. By the way, how long have you been in here?”

“It’s only been awhile. A lot of people attacked Kapu-chans but we turned the table on them.”

... Well nobody imagined that she had tamed them. But that misconception is out of the window now. I had a headache from trying to comprehend that, but I asked her about the state of the adventurers.

“Where are the people that attacked you?”

“They are asleep in that room. The others are chasing after Papa’s party.”

“Wait a minute. That group didn’t have any ill intent so please forgive them. I’ll also apologize for them.”

Her face stiffened for an instant when I said that, but she immediately gave me an OK with conditions.

” ... If Healer-oniichan says so then it’s okay, but I definitely want them to apologize to Kapu-chan and group.”

“I understand.”

I acknowledged her conditions and headed for the room that Shiela-chan pointed out.

Within the room was 6 adventurers with faint breaths after having been beaten up.

I was relieved that they had slight movements, immediately applying 「Heal」 on them and waited for them to regain consciousness.

” ... It’s great that they are actually alive.”

If the adventurers here were dead, I believe Shiela-chan’s position would turn for the worst.

“Is it not a crime if no evidence is left behind in a labyrinth? Or will the adventurers who attacked the monsters of a tamer be treated as criminals?”

There wasn’t any reply to my mutterings.

Shortly after, the adventurers woke up and agreed to apologize after I explained to them about Shiela-chan and the monsters she tamed.

“And why did you all not wait for us to join up with you all?”

“When we arrived on the 40th floor ...”

According to his explanation, when they arrived at the 40th floor boss room, they could not enter and judged that it was because Shaza’s party was currently fighting within it.

They caught up to them once on the 42nd floor but they shook off the arrest. They did not see any signs of them on the 43rd floor so they took a rest there.

Apparently, the monsters became stronger when they ascended the floors and exploration was harder to advance than expected.

“We were already at our limit so the Guildmaster went on ahead but we thought that girl was being attacked so...”

... If Kefin rushed in for an attack just now as well, it would have become a second offense against them.

“I understand. Your wounds have been healed so do you want to join up with us?”

“Yes please.”

The 6 adventurers bowed down. So together with Shiela-chan, there was an addition of 7 members in total.

It was a surreal sight to see adventurers bow down to Shiela-chan and her monsters.

Without immediately continuing their pursuit, I completely filled out the maps for the 48th and 49th floor before we arrived at the 50th floor.

“Papa’s party is not around.”

“Well, I believe they should be on this floor.”

They should know better than to challenge a boss room while being fatigued.

“Let’s take a short break. We can’t have our concentration drop due to having an empty stomach, so let’s have a light meal.”

The adventurers and Shiela-chan were delighted at my announcement.

Especially Shiela-chan, maybe she had not eaten for a whole day, but she steadily gulped down food with her small body.

It would be a waste of time to cook now, so I offered the leftover food from before.

But there weren’t any complaints.

“Listen up. The enemy waiting for us in the 50th floor boss room will be incomparable to the monsters that have appeared until now. I even feel like quietly leaving if possible.”

“Does your blood not boil in face of a strong enemy?”

Lionel was fired up, but I disregarded him.

“This party’s motto is safety first. It may be too late to say this now but it would be best if we can pass without fighting. Please bear that in mind.”

There were sparse replies and we began our exploration.

Even when exploring the 50th floor, I did not chase after Jasuandono’s party.

Without doing anything special, I drew the map for the floor little-by-little as usual.

After making rounds around the 50th floor, we once again found a treasure chest and my tension rose but I refrained from rejoicing.

In addition, I’ve been hearing sounds of battle from the boss room since earlier.

“There’s nobody around. I can only think of 1 possibility. If

possible, I don't want to battle that."

The entrance door to the boss room was prevented from closing by 2 thick logs. Peeping into the room, I saw a 3 sided battle between a Red Dragon, Shaza's party and Jasuan's party unfolding.

As expected, Lionel himself wanted to join the fray, but he did not rush in.

Inside the room, the Red Dragon was spitting fire breath, attacking with its tail, swinging its arms and biting with its maw. I was impressed by the surprisingly wide variation of attacks from the Red Dragon.

Just by observing them, I found that all members were still alive so I understood that not much time had passed since they entered the boss room.

It might be wise to quickly enter to save them, but looking at that does indeed make my feet tremble.

I can confidently claim that if we had the enormous Golem fight with that, it would even shock special effects heroes.

Even if we use arrows they would be repelled by the hard scales and even in close combat, we would not be able to close the distance because the opponent's reach is too far.

“Lionel, do you have confidence in stopping its attacks?”

Lionel replied with a stern look.

” ... If I receive the attack squarely, even if I don’t die, I would be blown away.”

“Cathy, can you evade the attacks and perform your own attacks?”

Cathy answered concisely with her usual nonchalant manner.

“It’s possible nya. However, I cannot deal significant damage to it nya.”

“Dolan and Paula, can you construct a Golem that can stop that?”

“I believe the largest one can grapple it ... ”

“The magical power would wear out within 30 seconds. Even if we use every available piece of magic stone, the Golem will crumble if it receives too much damage.”

Dolan crossed his arms and Paula touched her Golem control bracelet.

My mind was telling me to go back. Those words repeated

themselves countless times.

However, Shiela-chan had been grasping my robe tightly while shivering since a while ago and I did not have the heart to remove her hand.

If I cherished my life I would have turned back then.

My words and actions were contradictory.

I understood in my mind but I could not move my body.

It's not because there's a small child asking me for help. It's because I did not have the resolution to kill others nor let others die without helping.

I was swallowed within a vortex of thoughts.

A muddy stream of thoughts of wanting to save them and wanting to flee swept through me.

The little girl beside me cut through my chaotic thoughts.

“Nooo!”

The next instant, the figures of Shaza's aides, including Shiela-chan's father, getting blown away by a sweep of the Red Dragon's

tail was projected into my vision, as Shaza took that opportunity to try to gouge out the eye of the Red Dragon, but instead a grotesque scene of the dragon excitingly biting down on his body occurred.

I came to my senses and gave out instructions.

“We will not battle that directly, we are to retrieve the injured and withdraw. Absolutely avoid instant death. Let us all get out alive.”

『Yes!』

There wasn't any opposition to my orders, there was only the usual reply.

Casting 「Area Barrier」 on all my party members, we stepped into the boss room with a Red Dragon in it.

Chapter 075: Invincible Object X

The 50th floor boss room was very wide. As if built specifically to house the Red Dragon, it was a 100 meter diameter circular room reminiscent of the Adventurer's Guild training ground.

“God of Destiny-sama, Kuraiya-sama, God of Healing-sama, ancestors, please protect me.”

As usual, I dedicated my prayers to the gods and confronted the Red Dragon.

The Red Dragon I was confronting was tremendously huge. Apart from that, thoughts of its sharp fangs and claws, as well as the tough hide covering its whole body, floated in my head.

For some reason, taking a close look at it, I did not feel much fear.

With support from the criminal slaves that attacked to distract it, I rushed to the beastmen that were blown away by its tail and applied 「Area High Heal」 and 「High Heal」 on them, healing them and ordering them to head for the exit.

“If you do not wish to die, follow the guides and leave!”

The beastmen were surprised when they saw me, but they obediently followed the criminal slaves direction and headed for the exit.

The Red Dragon was confused due to our sudden appearance, but seeing its prey escape, it was enraged and spat out a breath of fire. Right at that instant, an enormous Golem suddenly appeared and jump kicked the Red Dragon.

Jasuan-dono's party stiffened as well, but I immediately gave out a command.

“Run!”

However, even though my voice reached Jasuan-dono's party, they refused.

“If we do not defeat this thing here, this labyrinth's activity will never stop.”

I cast 「Area Barrier」 via silent remote manipulation.

It may be just a consolation, but I do not wish for them to die so easily.

At that moment, the Golem returned to the soil.

Seems like the damage dealt to it was severe.

I judged that I could not persuade them any further, so I decided to support them from the vicinity of the exit and ran for the exit.

“Gugyaaagooooo”

『Don, Dodon』 The Red Dragon manipulated its tail rhythmically and Jasuan-dono and party were send flying to my direction as a fire breath came chasing after them.

I assumed that my body would get roasted, but Lionel held his large shield up and defended against the breath.

Due to the high heat, Lionel's shield was on the verge of melting and his skin began to stick to it. I immediately healed him with a 「Middle Heal」. As if it saw my actions, the Red Dragon switched its target to me and began moving.

As I was fleeing, Kefin and Cathy flew out from beside me but the Red Dragon rapidly rotated around, sending the 3 of them including Lionel flying with its tail.

The body of the 3 of them were flung towards the vicinity of the exit. Within my sight were only the Red Dragon, Shaza's dead body and several adventurers with heavy wounds lying around.

Looking towards the exit, I confirmed that Dolan and Paula had finished evacuating everyone.

The 2 of them held on to magic stones and were constructing the Golem, but maybe because they did in too hastily, the Golem did not solidify and quickly turned back into soil. Seeing that, I found

out that even the 2 of them get flustered sometimes.

The distance to the exit was ... 15 meters and the distance to the Red Dragon was also 15 meters. However, the Red Dragon's tail had already closed the distance.

"I don't want to die. I'll struggle and definitely escape from here."

I transformed the cane into a sword, took out the Holy Dragon's spear and confronted it.

"The sword of dragon slaying and the spear of dragon slaying. Regrettably, I do not have the sufficient ability to handle these. But I will try."

I rapidly circulated magical power within my body, activating body strengthening and glanced at the Red Dragon's movement.

While slowly but steadily retreating, I waited for its attack. I convinced myself that as long as I have my spear held up, I can receive its tail attack.

And then, the Red Dragon attacked. But instead of the tail attack that I was waiting for, it stepped forward a step and stretched out its arm for an attack.

Ku, I can't make it. I leaped to my side to avoid a mortal wound against that unexpected attack.

『Bun~』 That sound that sounded like the wind getting sliced apart passed by right beside me.

I don't know how I dodged that but I slid my illusionary sword across its defenseless arm, slashing it.

I sensed the feeling of tearing through the tough hide covering the Red Dragon's arm.

As if telling me that it really happened, blood spouted out from the Red Dragon's right arm.

The next instant, the Red Dragon's tail swung down towards me and crushed me.

『Dooooon』

It was such a great impact that it was a wonder that I was not dead. I've never been run over by a truck before, but that's the nearest analogy I could give from my previous life to describe the impact.

It was a state whereby I could not move my body at all.

Without any time to collect my thoughts, I don't know if it was because of the adrenaline correspondingly pumping through my body, but I didn't feel any pain.

Perhaps due to survival instinct, my brain invoked 「High Heal」 with no chant.

As a pale light enveloped my body, my sight gradually cleared up and sounds came back to me.

What I saw was a large maw opened wide as it cried out in joy, the figure of the Red Dragon advancing towards me to devour me.

Looking around the boss room, I saw the entrance and exit burning crimson red as Lionel and others were lying right beside me. I might have lost consciousness for a brief moment.

Most likely they entered to aid me ...

Did I hang in there considerably well for my second life? Well, I guess I did hang in there well.

I landed a strike on a dragon and I even became an S-rank healer.

Moreover, I received support from a great number of people.

The church will continue functioning without me around and my status was way too over the top in the first place.

I was even promoted ... Or was I really?

Is it alright to give up here?

I was promoted but did I live happily?

I did not have the chance to slowly tour the city.

I still had not begun the development of the magic tools.

Above all, is my current life going to end without me getting married once again?

Give up ... If I give up ...

“Like I’ll die in a place like this~!!”

The instant it almost devoured me, I took out a barrel from my magic bag and threw it into its mouth, as I rolled out with my body and used 「Extra Heal」.

I was attacked by a brief moment of intense pain but it was indeed just an instant of pain as my body completely recovered and I stood up, looking at the figure of the Red Dragon writhing madly.

” ... Do monsters really suffer that badly from that?”

I immediately applied 「High Heal」 to Lionel and others and a

『Doshin』 sound echoed through the boss room.

” ... Seriously?”

Looking towards the sound, I saw the Red Dragon passed out foaming through its mouth.

“This will do it?”

I immediately channeled magical power through the illusionary sword that was beside me and slashed at its neck, the blade passed through without any resistance. The Red Dragon convulsed and shifted towards the opposite direction but the neck was completely sliced through so the head and body were fully separated.

At that moment, the tremendously large Red Dragon vanished like it was all an illusion.

And on the place the Red Dragon's head fell on, a single magic book and a large crimson red magic stone appeared and a greatsword was stabbed into the ground.

I stored those items into my magic bag and applied healing magic on the adventurers who were a slightly away from me.

Lionel and Cathy looked at me with eyes of disbelief.

No, not only the 2 of them, everyone else had the same look on

their faces.

“He killed the dragon.”

“He killed an invulnerable dragon.”

“It’s a dragon slayer healer.”

Gradually such sprinkling of words could begin to be heard.

“Luciel-dono, how did you kill the Red Dragon?”

So that was why Lionel was looking at me with eyes of disbelief.

“I was crushed by the Red Dragon’s tail right? For a while after that, it seems like I lost consciousness, but when I came to, the maw of the Red Dragon was approaching in front of my eyes. I thought ‘I will not perish here!’, and in a sink or swim moment, I threw a barrel of Object X into its mouth and it fainted from the agony, that was when I beheaded it.”

“What!”

Lionel’s expression stiffened and Cathy ... Cathy and the surrounding beastmen were afraid of Object X.

“Luciel-dono, this time, you saved us. If it was only us we would

have definitely faced complete annihilation.”

“I guess. As a penalty to Jasuan-dono exposing us to danger here, shall I have Jasuan-dono drink Object X?”

As I grinned, Jasuan-dono performed a beautiful jumping dogeza and begged for forgiveness.

“Well then, I shall humanely ask why you all followed Shaza. I didn’t imagine that you all would risk your lives to partake in this labyrinth capture. The gods will be angered if you do not cherish your lives.”

I dispassionately continued with an angered expression.

The beastmen all began prostrating on the ground all at once, unanimously speaking the words of promise.

『Ye,yes~』

In the past, if there were reincarnated individuals, they definitely taught that to the beastmen.

As I had that thought, I purified the room and healed the injured individuals with healing magic.

In the meantime, Jasuan-dono prayed for the corpse of Shaza before retrieving it, leaving a strong impression on me.

After finishing all that, I got sleepy as expected. I bet that the labyrinth case would not end with that so I left it to my escorts as I went to sleep.

Chapter 076: Criteria To Enter The 51st Floor

Upon waking up from my pleasant sleep, there was a magic circle floating in the middle of the boss room. And similar to the Labyrinth of Tribulations, at the back of the boss room, there was a large door.

After stretching and sitting up, Lionel spoke out.

“Are you fine now?”

“Yeah. I’ve completely recovered. How are the other groups?”

“They’ve begun returning to the Adventurer’s Guild a little while earlier. Once they return to the Adventurer’s Guild, they will begin squeezing down on the people involved in this incident, including the Herbalist Guild Gurohara.”

” ... I feel sorry for the opponents of Jasuan-dono when he is in that state.”

“That ... fu~ indeed.”

We both laughed together.

“This time, it was dangerous as expected. If that Red Dragon did not intend to devour me I would have died.”

“I’m also far from my heyday, as one would expect, I could not stop that.”

“You don’t look like you’re reflecting though.”

“Indeed, allow me to serve as your training opponent when we return.”

“Cathy will also do that nya. I felt master’s considerable strength when confronting the Red Dragon.”

Cathy mixed into our conversation with a sleepy look.

However, the keen look in her eye was untouched by her grogginess.

“There’s only 1 task remaining before we return.”

I said while looking at the large door at the back of the room.

“Don’t we just return with the magic circle?”

“Master, are you still half asleep nya?”

But the 2 of them had no reactions and only had forced smiles.

” ... There’s no way we’re not going to open that door after coming all this way right?”

I pointed at the large door but ??? floated above both their heads.

(Don’t tell me I’m the only 1 that sees that? Holy Dragon, you didn’t tell me about this setting!)

” ... We will depart after everyone wakes up so please wait a moment.”

He’s embarrassed from being half asleep ...

The 2 of them judged that was the case and bowed, returning to where Naria was at.

I walked towards the large door alone and touched the door.

“I wonder what conditions are required for this?”

Unlike the Labyrinth of Tribulations, a shining scarlet emblem appeared.

“Ku, it sucks in magical power after all. However, looks like it’s not related to attribute.”

In the Labyrinth of Tribulations, without drinking MP potions, I

would have fallen into the brink of magical power depletion, but this time, I still had more than half of my magical power.

I was honestly pleased as it meant that I had grown stronger.

As might be expected, quietly going up would be a problem, so I left the door for a bit and called out to the person nearest to me, Kefin.

“Kefin! Can you see a large door there?”

” ... Isn’t it just a wall?”

Tilting his head as he stared at me, it seems like he can’t see the large door like Lionel and others.

(Is it due to the influence of my blessing that makes it such that I can see it?)

“Is that so ... Then please convey to Lionel and the others to quickly transfer to the labyrinth’s entrance using the magic circle after I’ve disappeared. I’ll also add on that this is an order.”

” ... May I follow?”

He was half believing and half in disbelief but I guess he chose to believe me. I thought that it was a good tendency of his as I answered.

“No, it seems like I am the only one being called so it’s impossible. Please have everyone observe my orders.”

『Pon pon』 I tapped Kefin’s shoulder before heading for the door.

Right before I open the door, I looked back and saw Lionel and others with sceptical looks, but they nodded and bowed.

I raised my hand and asked them to go in my mind. I opened the door and entered. As I began ascending the stairs, the door behind me slowly closed but I proceeded without regard to it.

“I wonder if my Divine Protection of the Holy Dragon and Blessing of the God of Healing would disappear if I do not release the sealed dragon here despite the fact that stage had been set.”

As I muttered, I finished climbing the stairs and crouched down. Peeping into the 51st floor, similar to the Holy Dragon, there was a dragon waiting obediently.

Although the dragon had flames wrapped around its body, it had black miasma mixed in and was in the process of terribly turning into undead.

“Holy Dragon, it’s been corroded even more into an undead than you were? Is it really okay to release them within 40 years?”

I muttered but there was no reply from the Holy Dragon.

As I channeled magical power into my illusionary cane, I weaved a chant. At the very least, I wish for the Flame Dragon to not suffer any longer.

【By the holy hand, by the breath of Mother Earth, by my wish use my magical power as sustenance, like wings of light, using a shield of purification, create a sanctuary that sears everything wicked and impure. Sanctuary Circle.】

Similar to how I did it that time for the Holy Dragon, I remote chanted the magic circle for 「Sanctuary Circle」 and it enveloped the Flame Dragon when it was triggered.

As if the Flame Dragon did not notice the 「Sanctuary Circle」, it did not cry out or trash around, enduring the pain.

A while later, the pale light of the 「Sanctuary Circle」disappeared.

The black miasma disappeared from the Flame Dragon's body and the previously harsh blood red flames turned into a gentle sunset-like glow.

I took a deep breath as I approached the Flame Dragon when I heard the Flame Dragon's voice echo in my head.

《Individual who released me from the Evil God's seal, I thank thee for releasing my curse after thou saved the Holy Dragon.》

” ... That telepathy ... are you the one doing the telepathic communication?”

《Yes. As long as thou possess the Holy Dragon’s Blessing, my words can reach thee through telepathy. Unfortunately, I no longer have the strength to open my mouth.》

... That 40 year time period the Holy Dragon mentioned, it’s for the hero to be born and not for the remaining survival time of the dragons?

“How many more reincarnation dragons are there? And why am I the only person allowed to enter here?”

《The condition is to have acquired the skill needed to remove the seal. Other than that, if one is not bestowed with a God’s Blessing or Dragon’s Blessing, one will not be able to see the door.》

... So if I did not have the Blessing of the God of Destiny I would not become the liberator? Why was I pinpointed to become the liberator?

As the Flame Dragon scratched his head, I realised that he was not thinking about the number of dragons as I asked. I was about to ask again when the voice once again echoed in my mind.

《As a reward for defeating me on thy own and with just a single strike, I gift thee the treasures here as well as my blessing. I would

love to offer my body's scales and fangs like how the Holy Dragon did, but they would disintegrate when my soul disappears.»

That's not what I wanted to know.

” ... I am thankful for the treasures, but is it normal for an ordinary person to possess several blessings?”

«Fret not, heroes can receive blessings from the gods as well as from us dragons.»

I am slightly reassured but to be compared with heroes ... only makes me more anxious.

“I will gratefully receive it.”

«Thou are as interesting a person as how the Holy Dragon mentioned. Kukuku.»

“I really can't do much more. I only wish to have a peaceful life and someday meet a wife to spend my time with.”

«Oo! I almost forgot. Thou who possess both the Holy Dragon's Blessing and my blessing will someday be led by fate to meet the priestess holding the Dragon God's Blessing.»

It looks like he is already absolutely set on passing his blessing on to me. Is it because the Dragon race doesn't listen to others that

the Dragonewts are so heedless as well? ... Rather than that ...

” ... Is the Dragon God Priestess pretty? And how old is she?” (TL: Lol Luciel has his priorities right)

《Kukuku. So thou are those who care about outward appearances. Let fate guide you. As the one who governs love, I guarantee that thy love will have chemistry.》

No, that is exactly what I should be worried about right. Rather than that ... there's such a thing as a destined significant other? Ha!? Wait this is bad. I must decline.

” ... I was able to break through the Labyrinth of Tribulations because of good compatibility, but I would not have been able to do so alone this time. I do not believe that a person like me can break through other labyrinths.”

《Thou are still green. Is personal strength everything? If thou can get help from others, that is strength as well. Just like how thou broke through this Labyrinth of Astray, trust in others. Be trusted by others. I pray that thou becomes an admirable sage.》

“Of course, I will ... ha? Sage?”

《It is fine as long as thou do what thou can. Please save my brethren.》

“I've already promised that to the Holy Dragon so it's fine, but

rather than that, what did you mean by sage?”

“Kukuku. Thou, what is thy name.”

The Flame Dragon suddenly stopped using telepathic communication and talked.

” ... It’s Luciel.”

I answered despite being surprised.

“Luciel, hold up the cane that thou made from the Holy Dragon’s fang.”

“Like this?”

Without answering, a scarlet light was sucked into my illusionary cane.

“Good luck Luciel. I have also fulfilled my promise ... Fi ... ru ... na ...”

The Flame Dragon laughed. And then his body began to collapse.

“Wait, I still have things ... I wish to ask. Holy Dragon and Flame Dragon too, don’t just disappear whenever you wish.”

Like a phoenix from fairy tales, the Flame Dragon's body caught fire and disappeared without a trace.

Similar to the Holy Dragon, where the Flame Dragon was, a large magic stone and treasure chest appeared, with a small jewel within the chest.

“Wha?!”

The next moment, the necklace I obtained from the Holy Dragon treasure chest flew out on its own and the jewel attached itself to it.

” ... Seriously?”

I did not notice before, but the jewel fit perfectly into the slot. And inferring from the sockets, there are still 7 jewels remaining.

” ... I've released 2 ... is it enough? Haha”

As I made excuses for myself, I was absent minded for a moment before considering the feelings of the others waiting for me, I switched gears and began moving.

To be on the safe side, I applied purification magic and began rapidly storing the items in my magic bag.

“Gold that I've never seen before and books that I can't read

again ... is this an extremely old labyrinth?”

As I muttered that, apart from the magic stone in the center, I kept everything in my magic bag before jumping into the magic circle.

And similar to when I did so after meeting the Holy Dragon, the magic circle began shining.

『Ping』【Title “Divine Protection of the Flame Dragon” obtained】

『Ping』【Title “One guided by the Dragon God” obtained】

When the light died down, I found myself at the entrance of the labyrinth.

Reflected in my eyes after I had transferred was the figures of everyone running up towards me.

Chapter 077: The Real Mastermind And New Problems

By the time I exited the labyrinth, the sun had already risen high in the sky.

At the same time, my stomach embarrassingly rumbled ... but it seemed like everyone else was hungry too so we had breakfast together.

“Anyway, so there really was a door there?”

“Yeah. Looks like one cannot enter if they do not possess a blessing. I have the dragon’s blessing so I could see the door and enter it. The Flame Dragon said so, so it should be true.”

” ... Flame Dragon?”

Lionel looked like he really wanted to fight with a dragon.

I laughed and answered.

“I didn’t really fight it anyway. I merely healed the suffering dragon.”

“I see...”

The others were waiting for people that can cook so I left to help. As I pondered that Lionel really was a battle maniac to want to fight with a dragon, I found out later that he had other things troubling him but he did not want to bother me at that moment.

Other than the few adventurers that stayed behind to take care of Fornoir and the horses, the others had already returned to the town of Ienith. How impatient~ ... I thought as I made breakfast and invited the adventurers that stayed behind.

Breakfast was exceptionally delicious under the sunny sky.

It would be great if I could have a barbecue with my subordinates next time.

I thought.

After breakfast, once everybody had completed their preparations, I saddled Fornoir.

Everyone took their escort formation and we departed for the town of Ienith.

“You were sulking until just now but ... does purification magic really feel that good?”

I stroked the nape of Fornoir’s neck as I asked.

There wasn't any reply but I could feel that his mood was better so I was relieved.

Maybe he was irritated by his body odour after having been left alone for 5 days.

I talked to Fornoir who unknowingly had come to enjoy cleanliness as we travelled.

(Status open)

On the way to the labyrinth, I conversed with Jasuan-dono and it was a good way to kill time.

On the way back, I jested with Fornoir at the start but I soon became bored with the flat road and nobody came over to talk so I opened my status to kill some time.

Name: Luciel

LV: 102 (100↑)

Job: Healer X (1↑), Holy Dragon Knight I

HP: 3020 (2160↑)

MP: 2610 (2040↑)

Age: 18

ST: (Not Stated)

STR: 366 (222↑)

INT: 422 (260↑)

VIT: 389 (222↑)

MGI: 460 (274↑)

DEX: 351 (210↑)

RMG: 454 (276↑)

AGI: 369 (236↑)

SP: 205 (203↑)

【Skills】

「Proficiency Appraisal—」 「Parallel Thinking V」(1↑) 「Great luck —」 「Chant Shortening VII」(2↑) 「Taijutsu VI」 「Chant Termination V」(2↑) 「Magical Power Control X 」(1↑) 「No Chant II」(1↑) 「Magical Power Manipulation X」(1↑) 「Magic Circle IV」(1↑) 「Holy Magic X」(1↑)

「Sword Mastery V」(1↑) 「Meditation VIII」(1↑) 「Shield Mastery VI」(1↑) 「Concentration IX」(1↑) 「Spear Mastery IV」 「HP Recovery VIII」(1↑) 「Archery I」 「MP Recovery IX」(1↑) 「Presence Perception V」(Not Stated) 「Stamina Recovery VII」 「Twin Spear Sword Technique IV」(1↑)

「Throwing V」 「Trap Sensing II」 「Dismantling II」 「Trap Detection I」 「Danger Perception V」(1↑) 「Cartography IV」(1↑) 「Footwork VI」 「Magical Power Amplification III」 「Body Strengthening II」 「Thought Acceleration III」(1↑)

「HP Increased Rate of Growth IX」(1↑) 「MP Increased Rate of Growth IX」(1↑) 「ST Increased Rate of Growth VIII」(Not Stated) 「STR Increased Rate of Growth IX」(1↑) 「VIT Increased Rate of

Growth IX](1↑) 「DEX Increased Rate of Growth IX](1↑) 「AGI Increased Rate of Growth IX](1↑) 「INT Increased Rate of Growth IX](1↑) 「MGI Increased Rate of Growth IX](1↑) 「RMG Increased Rate of Growth IX](1↑) 「Physical Ability Increased Rate of Growth III](1↑)

「Poison Resistance IX](1↑) 「Weakness Resistance IX](1↑) 「Paralysis Resistance IX](1↑) 「Magic Seal Resistance IX](1↑) 「Petrification Resistance IX](1↑) 「Disease Resistance IX](1↑) 「Sleep Resistance IX](1↑) 「Blunt Damage Resistance VI」 「Charm Resistance V」 「Daze Resistance VII](1↑) 「Curse Resistance IX](1↑) 「Mental Resistance IX](1↑) 「Slash Resistance VII](2↑) 「Pierce Resistance V](1↑)

【Titles】

「Altered Destiny」 All status +10

「God of Destiny's blessing」 Increased SP acquisition

「Blessing of the God of Healing」 Potency of Holy attribute healing magic increased by 1.5 times

「Divine Protection of the Holy Dragon」 Become a Holy Dragon Knight, increase in combat skills and status. It is now possible to converse with the dragon race

「Dragon (Oriental Dragon龍) Slayer」 Become stronger in attack and defence against dragons

「One who unleashed the seal」 Immune to the curse of the evil god. Capable of obtaining the power of sealed dragons.

「Divine Protection of the Flame Dragon」 Become a Flame Dragon Knight, grants related attribute. Increase in combat skills and status. It is now possible to converse with the dragon race.

「Dragon (Japanese Dragon竜) Slayer」 Become stronger in attack

and defence against dragons

「One guided by the Dragon God」 Relationship with the Dragon race and those who follow the dragons strengthens

I doubted the eyes. My level rose by 12 all of a sudden.

My status also rose by a considerable amount.

Furthermore, once I passed Lvl100 my SP rose by 3 instead of 2.

... So this level up was possible with the Flame Dragon.

So it's possible to power level after all?

MP increases as I level up. If I can establish that...

There may be adverse effects to leveling so easily so it would be safer to talk to the Pope and the people from the Church Headquarters first and I switched gears.

(I'm granted the attribute of the Flame Dragon? Without a proper explanation I don't understand it at all?)

“Burrururuu”

Maybe I wasn't really paying attention to riding, Fornoir scolded me and I was jolted back to reality. I apologized and closed my

status window. From then on, I enjoyed the horse riding experience until we reached Ienith.

“What is that?”

The first words that came out of my mouth when we arrived at Ienith were that.

The scene before me was an overflowing number of Ienith residents awaiting our return.

We ... no, upon seeing my figure, the residents began cheering.

Looking at that spectacle, I felt like hugging my head.

Looks like that muscle-brained Jias-dono forgot about my clear instructions to not broadcast our actions.

I knew that it would have been seriously troublesome if I did not have everyone escorting me to keep the residents at bay.

Without answering to their cheers, I had a twitching smile on as we followed the human path leading not to the Healer's Guild, but to Shaza's mansion.

Kefin and the criminal slaves entered the mansion last and shut the door behind them.

” ... Did you hear the cheers just now? They had eyes like they

were looking at a hero from fairy tales. They shouted “Dragonslayer!” “Dragonslaying Paladin!” “Apostle of the God of Healing!” “Strongest S-rank Healer!” “Dragon Slaying Healer!””

” ... Well, it’s the truth so there’s no helping it.”

“He certainly did slay a dragon nya.”

“He mostly defeated it alone.”

“We were there just as supporting characters.”

“S-rank-sama was sturdy enough to receive the full brunt of the dragon’s attack without dying. I admire him as even the combat force from an attack that I dodged was enough to defeat me although I survived due to sheer luck.”

“I can imagine master’s concerns but with master around, the peace and security of the Healer’s Guild is assured.”

Beginning with Lionel, Naria concluded the conversation.

The other slaves chimed in as well but they were somehow delighted so I did not rain on their parade.

I walked towards Shaza’s mansion.

“Ooo! Luciel-dono ... Luciel-sama? Did your blessing somehow become stronger? And why do you have such a scary look on your face?”

Feeling irritated from Jias-dono's peppy voice, I held on to my resolute determination and told him.

“The blessing is because I defeated the Red Dragon. Rather than that, what's with the triumphal parade?”

“Since you had such a grand accomplishment. To celebrate the arrival of a new hero, albeit a somewhat small scale one, it is to be expected.”

“I see. If it was done in consideration for me then let us toast to it.”

I changed from an expressionless face to a grin as I approached Jasuan-dono.

“Lu, Lu, Luciel-sama? Ha, have I done something that displeases you?”

“... No, I merely wish to have a toast with you? Don't tell me you don't want to do so?”

” ... ”

Jasuan-dono's whole body was trembling violently, but I will not pardon him.

Nobody would be troubled even he faints here.

Moreover, there are no beastmen that would come to his aid.

Almost all the members are prostrating themselves on the ground so even if Jasuan-dono calls for help they can't respond.

“Well then, cheers.”

I gulped down the Object X in one go and Jasuan-dono also opened his large mouth to drink it in one go ... but the next instant his eyes rolled back and he fell backwards.

“Ah~ Now I feel refreshed. He stinks so I'll cast 「Purification」 and 「Recover」 on him.”

I asked for someone to carry the fainted Jasuan-dono to somewhere he can rest and they quickly came rushing out to carry Jasuan-dono away.

“Well then, please describe to me what happened.”

I smiled slightly and they obediently informed me step-by-step.

Although this time the mastermind was the vice guild leader of the Herbalist Guild, the truth was that it was directed by the Elimasia Empire to dampen the national power of Ienith.

Various combat factions, including Shaza, received solicitations from the Elimasia Empire and were taught ways to silence the moderate factions.

And the reason why they could tie up the other races was because they did not sell medicine to specific races.

Because they were prevented from speaking with the adventurers chasing after them in the labyrinth, they did not hear about the recent happenings.

The reason why they could proceed so deep into the labyrinth was because they scattered things with the odour that monsters like and covered their own body with medication with an odour that monsters avoid, so they were fine.

It's just like Object X~ I thought as I thought about the name of the mastermind – Elimasia Empire.

The name Elimasia Empire came up once again ... I've been nothing but a hindrance to them right?

I wonder if I am hated by the empire because of all this?

No matter how much I thought about it I wouldn't have an

answer for it so I pushed it to the back of my head and tried asking what we should do hereafter.

How do you correct this incident that greatly shook the foundations of the country?

I was interested in that.

How will they tell the residents, how will they rise up and prosper? I wanted to use that as a reference for the Healer's Guild.

“This time, the representative of this city Shaza-dono was, unfortunately, slain and you all may pursue the Herbalist Guild's Gurohara-dono, but how would you all address this case as a country?”

The person who answered me was the previous previous representative, Shiela's father.

” ... We will first choose 8 representatives from the tribes. We will then vote on the individuals chosen from the Dog, Wolf, Cat, Tiger, Dragon, Fox, Bird and Rabbit, apart from the representative race chosen the previous term as well as me, to choose the new representative.”

“Okay. I'm listening.”

“As a penalty for this incident, the Tiger beastmen and Dragonewt beastmen will be deprived of their right to become

Ienith's representative for 5 terms.”

” ... I see. But isn't it too lenient with just that?”

“Yes. In addition, we have decided to have all the executives from those 2 races resign. We will also scrutinise their departments for any fraud.”

“I see. So at the end of the day, what do you plan to do?”

When I asked that, he adjusted his bearing and stared at me.

” ... ”

” ...? ”

Is there something on me? Just as I wanted to ask, he decisively performed a beautiful prostrated pose on the ground.

“For the remaining one year term of office, please lend us your power.”

Not only him, all the beastmen that welcomed us prostrated all together and called out.

『We beg of you.』

Is this some kind of period drama? I'm not wrong to have such thoughts right?

“Ha?”

“What the beastmen need is a strong, kind leader that they can look up towards. Luciel-dono is the only person that can prevent Ienith from dividing.”

He's saying that I have a unifying force, a sense of charisma? ... Seems like the rumors were blown out of proportion. (TL: Thanks Anonymous 😊)

” ... You mean you want to borrow my name?”

I would be troubled if the country declines after all ... I don't want to lend it but there's no choice.

” ... Just now, I sent an errand to ask the Pope from Saint Schull church to allow Luciel-dono to become the temporary representative for Ienith. If she agrees, we would like to, by all means, hear your methods to enrich Ienith. We will give our full efforts.”

” ... Aren't you being too willful? I have a mission to establish the Healer's Guild and healer clinic in these lands as well? I also do not have any experience as a representative so there's no way I can do it.”

I seriously hope they give me a break. Even now, I already have too much on my plate, any more is impossible.

“With regards to the Healer’s Guild and healer clinic, we have already advanced talks about constructing a healing district within Ienith. The Herbalist Guild has also acknowledged the synergistic nature of your work and we have arranged for a new construction site for you. Also, you can renovate the building so it is also possible for Luciel-sama to live in the Healer’s Guild. The ex-slums residents have also received work in the healing district so they are thankful towards Luciel-sama and the Healer’s Guild.”

After saying that enthusiastically, he once again rubbed his head against the floor to beg of me as my stomach began to hurt.

” ... Please give me some time to think about it. It is not content that I can immediately decide on after all, and it is a heavy load so I have to discuss this with the Pope as well.”

I no longer wanted to remain there. So I returned.

“I hope you come to a favourable conclusion.”

『Please treat us favourably』

Thus, my refreshed feeling from Jasuan-dono did an 180 flip, I felt a heavy weight as I returned to the Healer’s Guild.

Exiting the door, the number of people have certainly decreased,

but the young men and women remained and looked at me from afar.

I saw that their gazes were like those of admiration for heroes from stories.

I pondered about how to answer to this as I muttered on the way back to the Healer's Guild.

“Not only Jasuan-dono, I'll have to have the person who planned this all along, Gurohara, to drink plenty of Object X.”

The beastmen who heard my mutterings trembled in fear, but I did not notice as I was burning with anger at that time.

Chapter 078: Is This What They Call Middle Management?

Returning to the Healer's Guild, I told nobody to enter the master's room as I collapsed on the table and wished for a place to escape to ...

That was what I truly felt as I recounted the contents of the previous conversation to the Pope.

《You are certainly as competent as Father, to be able to produce results so quickly.》

She spoke happily but getting equated to that flawless superman Sir Rainstar is nothing but a nuisance.

“I have been blessed with interpersonal luck since arriving here and defeating the dragon was also totally because I had good luck.”

I didn't just keep it in my mind, I also spilled out my real feelings.

《Luciel, with regards to your Holy attribute magic, there might not be any that can stand side-by-side you. However with regards to guild management, there should be many that are more excellent than you.》

I had a sense of discomfort from that cutting words but it is a fact that I do not know many things about the management of the guild

so I could only respond with a nod.

“The subordinates that I brought along are certainly competent.”

I only have fragments of knowledge regarding this world.

There may have been proper chances made for me to understand more but, more than anything, I placed my own life as top priority so I sacrificed other aspects but ...

《Originally, you intended to remain in Ienith for a couple of years right?》

?! ... Why is it? That I have a terribly bad premonition.

“That is true but I am a healer?”

《With this incident, the connection within Ienith would strengthen and the backing of the connections would become more powerful right?》

I think so ... but, I really don't want to stand out any more than this.

“I don't want to stand out any more than this. S-rank healer, dragon-slayer? That's not normal. And I've also been attached the title of Ienith's representative...”

《That doesn't change anything. You were flown to the Church Headquarters originally precisely because you stood out. You can drink the God's Grief liquefied product, Object X, perfectly fine, you perfectly heal any wounds for just 1 silver coin, you became the Healer's Guild's only S-rank healer and you've even made the guidelines and legislations. Does that change if dragon-slayer and Ienith representative are added to that list?》

I only wished for my safety.

Thanks to my encounter luck from Great Luck-sensei, I met Shisho and received training.

Is there nowhere for me to live quietly?

“Is it possible for me to apply for long term rest?”

《Of course. Just by travelling you spread the church's prestige and provide healing. But those are not behaviours that we impose on you. Which is why it is fine to be at ease and rest when you can.》

I was relieved when I heard those words.

“If that's the case, can I take a break from now onwards?”

I happily raised my voice. However, reality is uncertain after all.

That was said with a tone that did not change at all but I felt a gouging sharp pain in my heart. Is this what you mean by middle management, senpai?

” ... I understand. However, I can only do what I can do myself. Moreover, even if I am called an S-rank, my core occupation is a healer. Once I tidy up this incident, I will set off on a journey.”

《Of course, there has been such plans all along.》

With a voice that sounded like she was resisting from laughing out from astonishment, I told her that I would contact her again and cut the connection from the magic communication bead.

” ... It’s fine if I obtain some skills right? Broad-shisho.”

After saying that, I began to view the skills acquirable with my SP.

Broad-shisho was furious when I consulted him.

“Idiot! The skills you can acquire using SP depends on your own disposition. If you can’t decide, then nobody can. Luciel, you should not forcibly acquire skills when you are lost. The skills that you truly need changes according to the path you take. Which is why there is no need to be impatient.”

Which is why, although I have been checking them as I leveled up, I have not acquired any due to my indecisiveness.

” ... Eh?”

The moment I operate my SP, I notice something different from usual.

” ... Don’t tell me I’ve obtained aptitude in Fire?”

My tension rose past the ceiling from the unexpected windfall but after pondering for a bit, my tension rapidly deflated.

“I don’t think there’s a Magician’s Guild in this city.”

“For skills that I really need ... Paula can handle magic tools and Dolan blacksmithing. Monster Handling will allow one to raise a monster from its baby stage, giving it chance to foster attachment but I don’t need it in my current lifestyle ... or do I?” (TL: 従魔 The kanji for Monster Handling uses the kanji for monster subordination/dependency)

With that troubled last sentence, I once again closed the status screen without acquiring any skills.

As soon as I left the room, a nice smell entered my nose.

“Even though she isn’t a cook, Naria can really cook well~”

While having that thought, I walked down to the first floor.

“Everyone, although you all have been celebrating after returning, I would like to apologize.”

I entered with an apology. I was having quite a temper so after I took out a large amount of ingredients for lunch and asked for Naria's aid, I shut myself in the guildmaster's room.

“I've roughly heard about it. That's rough.”

“Yeah. The Pope said that by becoming the representative, our talks would advance quicker. She would also like Jordo-san and everyone else to focus on the Healing District.”

” ... Does that mean we will take over the Healer's Guild from Luciel-dono's responsibility?”

“I would like that but after talking with the Pope, I've decided to do so only after I finish my meeting with the Herbalist Guild guildmaster. Which is why, until this incident settle down, you will all still be my subordinates.”

“I'm glad that's the case.”

I had a feeling that Jordo-san felt relieved.

” ... Is there something?”

” ... To be honest, aren’t the beastmen adventurers and Dragonewt guildmaster and vice-guildmaster quite scary when seen up close? Seems like it would be a hard time working out the details with them too so thank you in advance.”

He said that and relied on me.

“Yeah. For about 10 days we will proceed with the current organization but once the talks are official, please lend me your strength.”

“Yes. Likewise.”

“Master, Jordo-sama, the preparation for food is complete.”

Naria called out and we headed for the dining table.

Currently present were the subordinates that came with me from the church and the slaves. Even though I can’t even manage this organization well as the top, it is insane for me to become Ienith’s representative.

I began speaking.

“Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for protecting the Healer’s Guild. Even though we had help from the adventurers and Dragonewts from the Adventurer’s Guild, I can imagine that you all have accumulated a lot of stress under the gaze of many beastmen in an unfamiliar land. Thank you.”

When I said that, everyone responded with a nod.

“Next, for the slaves, thanks to you all giving your best to fight, we safely completed our goal for going to the labyrinth and even successfully broke through the labyrinth. That is, without a doubt, thanks to you all. Later, I will interview every one of you individually, so please come to the master room after your meals.”

『Yes!』

“And to celebrate your safe return and your protection of the Healer’s Guild without issue, please eat your fill.”

While enjoying Naria’s especially luxurious cooking, I thought about what I plan to do from now on.

I heard a knock.

“Enter.”

The person who entered was Lionel.

“Lionel. Going by your achievements this time, I am even willing to remove your slave contract. Moreover, could you still lend me a hand?”

Generally, the conditions for removal of slave contract are

stipulated. He would need to commit effort a multitude of the 5 gold coin he was purchased for and as long as he himself wishes for it, it can be done.

I was taught the slave contract removal conditions by the first-visit-refusal slave dealer Reruga.

” ... I refuse.”

As expected, it would be hard to get such an accomplished warrior to aid me ...

” ... I understand. I will then cast 「Dispel」 to remove the slave contract. Please confirm that the contract has been removed after I have cast.”

Lionel put out his hand and I paused.

“The favour I received for your healing is the favour of a lifetime. Please allow me to accompany Luciel-sama on your journey as a slave.”

Lionel said so with a smile.

It wasn't only Lionel. Cathy, Naria, Dolan, Paula, and Kefin rejected my offer to remove their slave contract.

The slaves apart from Kefin told me that they wish to accompany

me as slaves for as long as I stay in this city.

They told me that they have learnt various things as slaves of the Healer's Guild.

Using that acquired knowledge not for ill, but to relive their lives in Ienith with the others from the slums.

They all said the same thing. They wish to create a self-sustainable environment and rebuilt the slums, different from the slums that was the bottom of the society.

I had given out a command to not speak any lies, but I could immediately tell that they were not lying even if I did not give the command. The expressions they had as they talked about their dreams had plenty of persuasiveness.

“Aspirations huh. If surviving is my goal and objective, then I have not aspired for anything since coming to this world.”

Thus, I thought about what dreams I desire late until the night.